4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades

中國古玉4000年

by

FILIPPO SALVIATI

EDITION ZACKE

4000 YEARS OF CHINESE ARCHAIC JADES

中國古玉 4000 年

4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades

中國古玉4000年

新石器時代至漢代
玉雕工藝的發展歷程

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE JADE-CARVING TRADITION FROM THE NEOLITHIC TO THE HAN DYNASTY

by

FILIPPO SALVIATI

EDITION
ZACKE

FRONT COVER
No.288
Disc with pair of dragons

BACK COVER
No.56
Tall *cong* with masks

This publication is accompanied by a website **archaic.jades.zacke.at**

It offers high-resolution photographs of all the jades featured in this book: the photographs show the jades from different angles and can be enlarged to magnify the details and carved decoration.

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FOREWORD

Dear lover of Chinese archaic jades,

After a three-year creative process, I now have the honor and pleasure to present this book to you. It was in 2014 that the idea of a publication about archaic Chinese jades was first conceived. Our aim was to produce a book of jades from private collections, many of which never published before, that would thoroughly illustrate the development of this ancient form of art from its beginnings to the early imperial period: the volume would be written by Prof. Filippo Salviati, our scientific advisor in this difficult field, and published by Edition Zacke.

Initially, the book, that was to include a selection of about one-hundred fifty jades, was scheduled to be published in 2015. However, as we went through our archives and spoke to the jade collectors, some of whom we have known for decades, interesting and fascinating jades, often half-forgotten ones, kept re-surfacing. Thus, we realized that we would have to postpone the date in order to incorporate these important jades, as they could not be excluded from the book if we were to offer the reader the most comprehensive overview of the jade-carving tradition of ancient China.

The results now lie before you: a sophisticated and comprehensive book that features three-hundred and fifty-two jades and almost four-hundred photographs, and presents all the relevant developments in the jade-carving tradition of ancient China over a time span of almost four-thousand years, from the late Neolithic (c.4000-2000 BC) up to the Han dynasty (206 BC-AD 220). Professor Salviati has infused all his knowledge and expertise of ancient Chinese jades in this book, and has thoroughly researched and studied each single piece using the most updated information. Each jade is described and set within its proper cultural context and compared to examples that have been excavated from archaeological sites or housed in major museum collections around the world.

We have also placed great attention on presenting the jades in a clear and accurate manner, and many of them were photographed over and over by Georg Bodenstein and Wolfmar Zacken until the best possible results were attained. For those few jades whose owners and locations we could no longer determine, we have used images taken over the last decades with traditional photographic equipment (usually with Hasselblads).

Whether they came from private collections, auctions or the international art market, all of the jades presented in this book have, at some point in the last forty-five years, passed through our hands on their way to becoming part of the various collections that are now scattered across the globe. We hope that this fascinating book will be a pleasant, useful and informative tool for collectors, students and all those who appreciate the beauty of this ancient form of art.

Irene M. Zacke
Editor

PREFACE

This book is the result of a ten-year period of research on Chinese archaic jades from a number of different European private collections that I had the possibility to study first-hand when they were consigned for evaluation at Galerie Zacke in Vienna. It presents 352 jades –or slightly more, since a few of them are pairs- selected from the hundreds that I have assessed over the past years. The jades, presently in several private collections all over the world, cover an uninterrupted period of four-thousand years, spanning from the late Neolithic (5th - 4th millennium BC) to the end of the Han dynasty (3rd century AD) and illustrate in detail almost all of the major forms and decorative motifs of the ancient Chinese jade-carving tradition.

During this long period, jade was worked into objects that were the tangible expression and exclusive possessions of selected individuals at the top of the ancient Chinese societies. It is thus not surprising if many of the jades illustrated in this book often match, as accurately pointed out in each description, similar ones found in the elite graves of the Neolithic, the royal tombs of the Shang and Western Zhou dynasties, the aristocratic burials of the Eastern Zhou and the princely tombs of the Western Han.

The jades have been selected for their cultural significance, rarity, aesthetic qualities and high level of workmanship, and have been arranged chronologically: whenever possible, I have grouped them on the basis of their typology or ornamentation to show the 'variations on a theme'. Each section is provided with an introduction that deals with the major characteristics of each historic period, followed by the single descriptions of the jades: although each entry can be read on its own, they have also been written as segments of a continuous narrative which begins and ends with the first and last jades of each section. Within each description and whenever relevant, I have also included references to other jades in the book so that the reader can compare typologies, decorations and the development of certain shapes over the centuries. The descriptions are intentionally detailed, because the aim is to guide the reader towards the proper understanding of the visual characteristics of the jades and their carved decorations, which are often not immediately evident at first sight.

Comparable examples in Western museum collections are accompanied by their accession number (abbreviated in acc. no.): many museum collections are now available online and the accession number can be used to find the corresponding images of jades in the museums' databases. To facilitate the reader, I have also limited the bibliographical references to the essential titles and avoided quoting all the excavation reports, which for the most part are published in Chinese and in specialized journals. The books that I have mostly used for reference include classics such as those written by scholars like Yang Boda, Alfred Salmony and Prof. Max Loehr, and last but not least, the milestone work by Jessica Rawson, *Chinese Jade*, published in 1995. To this illustrious line of predecessors I have humbly added, for reference, my latest work on the collection of Chinese archaic jades of Samuel and Myrna Myers, one of the most comprehensive and important in the Western world. The book is also provided with some essential critical tools that are indispensable in a work of this scope, such as a list of all the archaeological sites mentioned in the text, a detailed index to all of the technical terms and names cited in the book, bibliographical references, a synthetic map of the major jade-using cultures and a chronological table. The photographs that illustrate the various introductions are mine and were taken in some of the many Chinese museums and sites that I visited during the regular field-trips that were conducted in the past years: the Liaoning Provincial Museum, Shenyang; the Museum of Chinese History, Beijing; the Nanjing Museum; the Anhui Provincial Museum and the site of the Western Han tombs in Xuzhou.

This book would not have been possible without the cooperation of the following people who have worked intensively to help finish and deliver it in the best possible way. I thus would like to express my sincere gratitude to Ms. Irene M. Zacke, for her inestimable supervision, constant hard work and for never giving up; to Wolfmar Zacken for his suggestions, useful discussions and for cheering me up with a glass of wine after a hard day's work; to the whole staff of Galerie Zacke for the assistance provided and patience demonstrated over the years, particularly in the last weeks of production; to Mr. Gregor Zinggl, the graphic designer who has tirelessly worked in tandem to correct all the mistakes and *minutiae* up until the very last minute; to Ms. Andrea Baker, who has offered invaluable support in the editing and 'polishing' of the English texts and in the revision of the Chinese captions; and to Prof. Zhang Tongbing, my colleague at Sapienza University of Rome, who promptly offered her help from Beijing to refine the translation of the Chinese title.

Prof. Filippo Salviati
Author

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

JADE-USING CULTURES OF THE NEOLITHIC PERIOD

Northern China	
Xinglongwa 興隆洼文化	c. 6200-5200 BC
Zhaobaogou 趙宝溝文化	c. 5200-4500 BC
Hongshan 紅山文化	c. 4500-3000 BC
Southern China	
Beiyinyangying 北阴阳营文化	c. 5000-3500 BC
Majiabang 馬家浜文化	c. 5000-3800 BC
Songze 崧泽文化	c. 3800-3300 BC
Lingjiatan 凌家灘文化	c. 3600-3300 BC
Liangzhu 良渚文化	c. 3300-2200 BC
Shijiahe 石家河文化	c. 2500-2000 BC
Eastern China	
Dawenkou 大汶口文化	c. 4500-2500 BC
Longshan 龍山文化	c. 2600-1900 BC
Taosi phase 陶寺时期	c. 2300-1900 BC

EARLY BRONZE AGE

Qijia 齊家文化	c. 2200-1600 BC
Erlitou 二裡頭文化	c. 1900-1700 BC

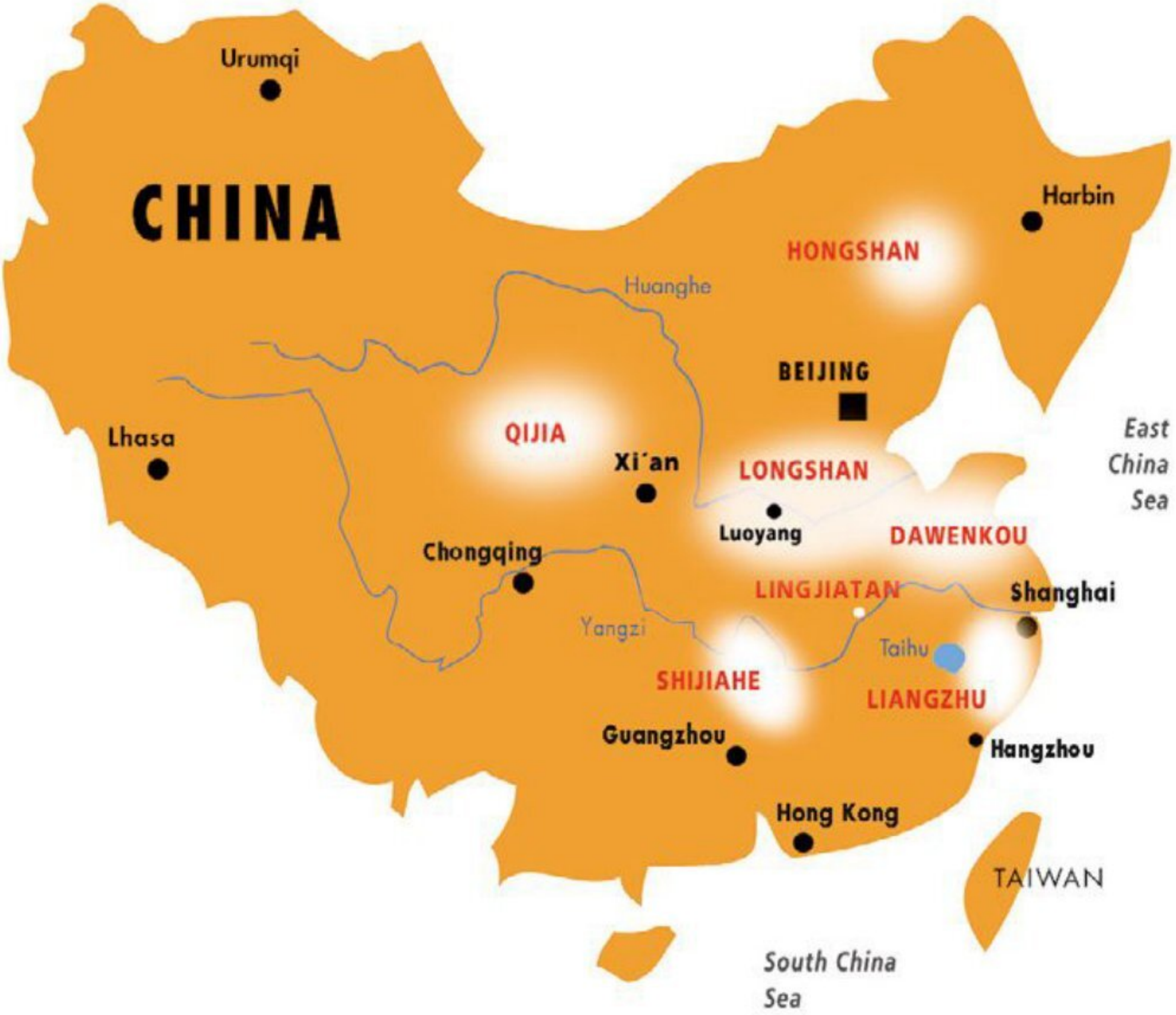
EARLY DYNASTIES

Shang 商代	c. 1600-1050 BC
Anyang phase 安陽时期	c. 1300-1050 BC
Western Zhou 西周	c. 1050-770 BC
Eastern Zhou 東周	770-221 BC
Spring and Autumn 春秋	770 to 475 BC
Warring States 戰國	475-221 BC

EARLY IMPERIAL CHINA

Qin dynasty 秦代	221-206 BC
Han dynasty 漢代	206 BC-AD 220
Western Han dynasty 西漢代	207 BC-9 AD
Xin dynasty 新代	AD 9-25
Eastern Han dynasty 東漢代	AD 25-220

MAP OF THE MAJOR JADE-USING CULTURES OF NEOLITHIC CHINA


Urumqi
CHINA
Harbin
HONGSHAN
Huanghe
BEIJING
Lhasa
QIJIA
Xi´an
LONGSHAN
East
China
Sea
Luoyang
DAWENKOU
Chongqing
LINGJIATAN
Shanghai
Yangzi
Taihu
SHIJIAHE
LIANGZHU
Guangzhou
Hangzhou
Hong Kong
TAIWAN
South China
Sea

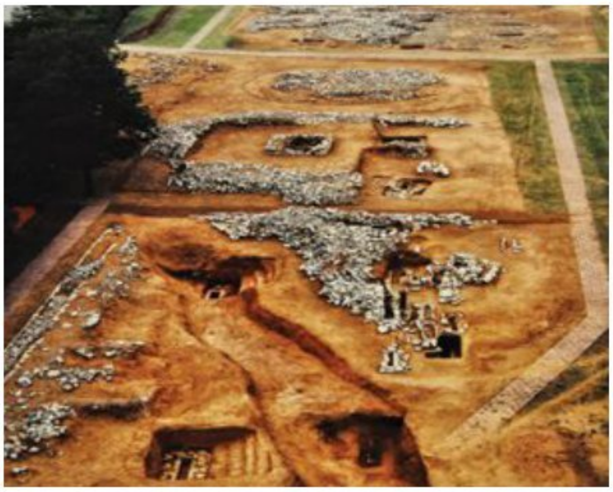


Fig.1
One of excavated areas of the Niuheliang site, Hongshan culture

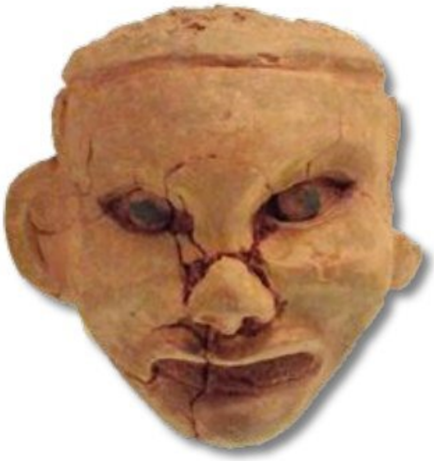


Fig.2
Pottery head found in the 'Female spirit temple' at Niuheliang, Hongshan culture, Height 22.5 cm

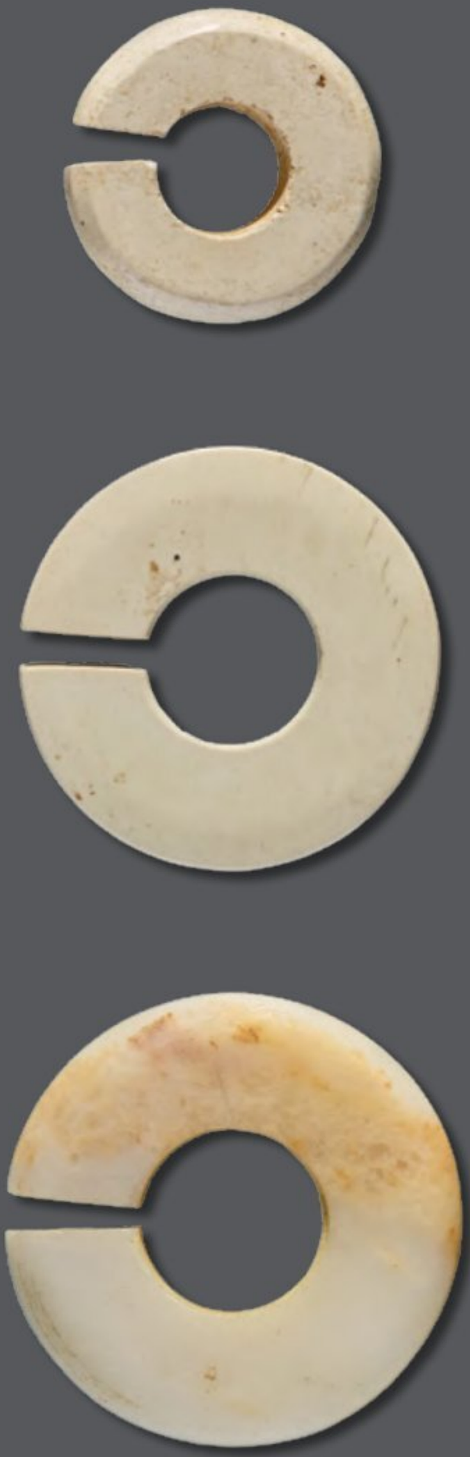
THE BEGINNING OF THE JADE-CARVING TRADITION IN NORTH-EASTERN CHINA: THE HONGSHAN CULTURE AND ITS PREDECESSORS

Interestingly, the beginnings of the jade-carving tradition in China, which started in the 6th millennium BC, are not to be found in the central regions of the country along the Yellow River where the historic dynasties established their capitals, but rather in the peripheral regions bordering the central plains. In fact, after a long period of regional cultural developments, the major jade-using cultures of the Neolithic, Hongshan and Liangzhu, which flourished in north-eastern and south-eastern China, respectively, took the jade-working tradition to unprecedented levels of sophistication.

The Hongshan culture (c.4500-3000 BC), that was located in north-eastern China, south-eastern Inner Mongolia and the western Liaoning province, derives its name from the site of Hongshanhou, near Chifeng, in Aohan Banner, Inner Mongolia. The area was first excavated by the Japanese archaeologist Kōsaku Hamada (1881-1938) in 1935, and although further sporadic diggings were conducted by Chinese archaeologists, it was only in the 1970s that the first jades were discovered there. However, the additional excavations conducted from the 1980s onwards revealed the complexity of the Hongshan culture and the developments of the whole region during the Neolithic period.

In the area of the Liao River system, Hongshan was preceded by the Xinglongwa (c.6200-5200 BC) and Zhaobaogou (c.5200-4500 BC) cultures. Their cultural traits, which reached full maturity under Hongshan, are displayed in the stone statuettes with anthropomorphic features, often depicting females; skulls and skeletons of pigs and wild boars buried in dwellings or tombs, attesting a particular role played by these animals in local religious beliefs; construction of ritual structures; and finally, small items carved in nephrite jade.[1] The oldest worked jades excavated in China -and apparently in the whole world- come from Chahai (Fuxin, Liaoning province) and other sites of the Xinglongwa culture. They include ear ornaments, shaped as rings with a slit (*jue* 玦) and rounded or faceted edges, whose use is also attested amongst the Majiabang (c.5000-3800 BC) and Songze (c.3800-3300 BC) cultures of southern China, chronologically later than Xinglongwa.[2] Examples of these early jades are the three completely whitened *jue* illustrated in no.1: the thorough alteration of the stone, often seen on excavated artefacts, was not a natural phenomenon, but rather induced by firing the nephrite to high temperatures. This practice, which must have held some ritual significance, was particularly favoured by the major jade-using cultures of southern China, such as Lingjiatan (c.3600-3300 BC, no.42) and Liangzhu (c.3300-2200 BC, nos.63, 64, 68, 70). On the contrary, Hongshan whitened jades are less frequently seen (no.26 is an example) and in most cases they preserve the original green or yellowish colours so typical of Hongshan nephrite.

One of the better known and more extensively excavated Hongshan sites is the ceremonial complex located at Niuheliang, Jianping county, Liaoning province, which is dated to the later phase of the Hongshan culture.[3] (Fig.1) The Niuheliang complex, now a candidate for the UNESCO World Heritage list, is actually formed by a group of sites built over hilltops distributed over a large area measuring approximately fifty square kilometers. Structures of a seemingly ritual nature have been discovered in various localities at Niuheliang and include earthen altars, raised stone platforms, semi-subterranean buildings and elite burials made with stone slabs that were primarily furnished with jades. The centre of the ritual activities performed at Niuheliang was probably the so-called Nüshenmiao or 'Female spirit



1

THREE SLIT-RINGS
三玉玦
Diameter 2.5, 3.4, 3.6 cm
直徑 2.5, 3.4, 3.6 厘米

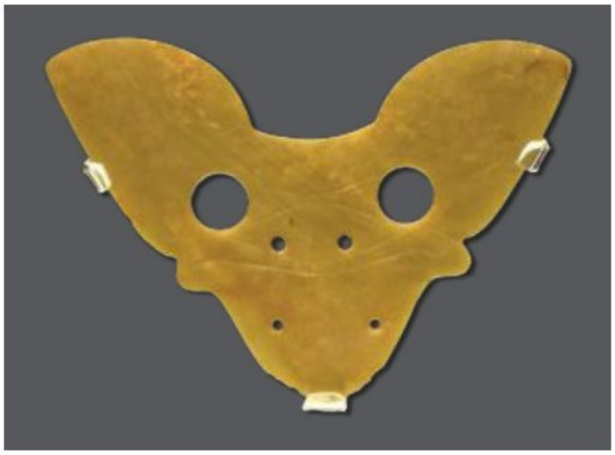


Fig.3
Jade mask from tomb 21, mound 1,
locality 2 at Niuheliang, Hongshan culture
Width 14.7 cm

temple', positioned roughly in the middle of the whole complex: it consists of a semi-subterranean structure with a corridor and chambers where archaeologists have uncovered the remains of life-size female sculptures in clay (Fig.2) accompanied by fragments of unbaked clay figures of animals. Niuheliang clearly appears to be a key ritualistic site where important individuals of the Hongshan culture were also buried over an extended period of time. There is also a clear hierarchical order in the disposition of the tombs, probably reflecting the different social status of the individuals: there are usually one or two central graves, located in the vicinity of the architectural structures, surrounded by smaller ones. The Niuheliang graves, of the cist-tomb type, are paved, lined and covered with slabs so that the structure resembles a stone coffin. In some undisturbed tombs, the skeletons were found in relatively good condition: the jades, which were still in the places they occupied at the time of burial, have thus provided important clues for a better understanding of their use.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

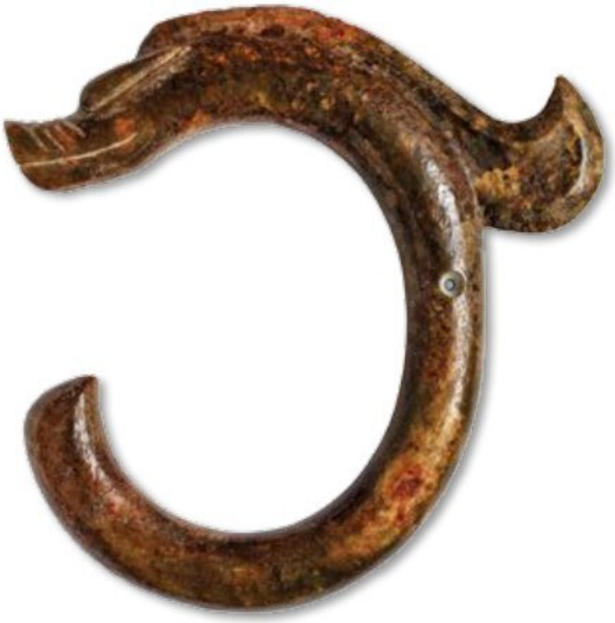


Fig.4
Jade dragon, Hongshan culture
Height 15.6 cm

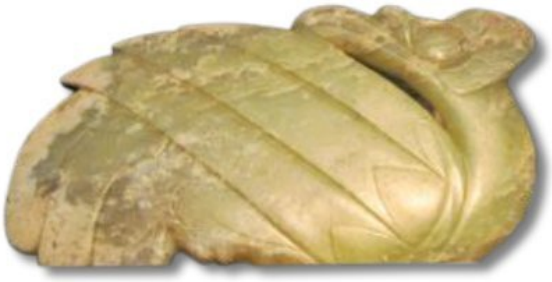
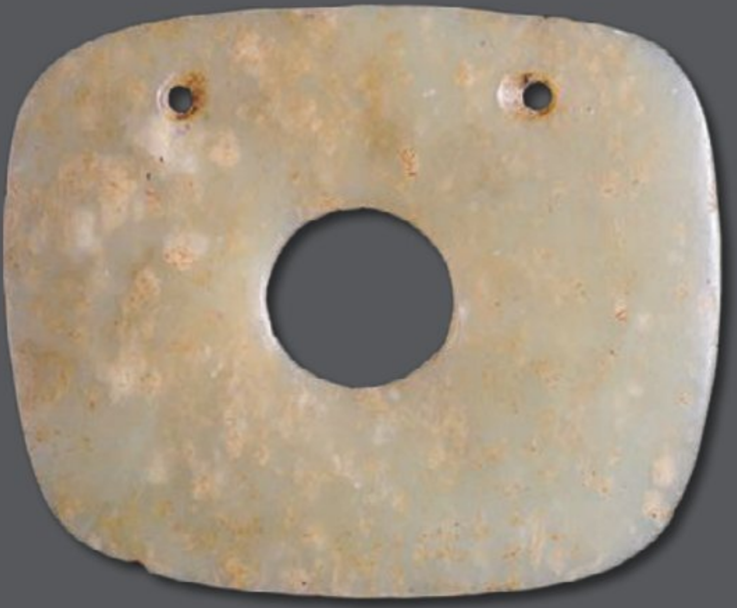


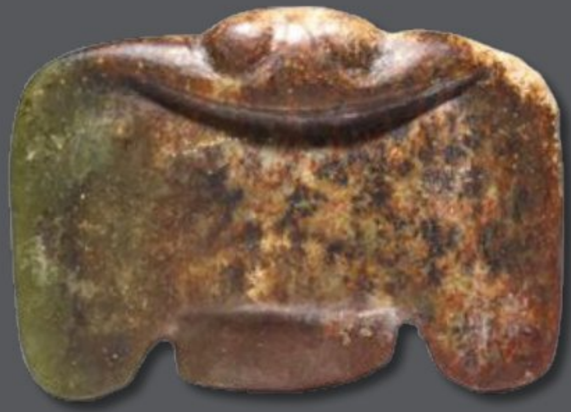
Fig.5
Bird-shaped plaque from tomb 4,
locality 16 at Niuheliang, Hongshan culture
Width 21 cm

[redacted]



2

DISC WITH SQUARED OUTLINE
方形玉璧
Width 7 cm
寬 7 厘米



3

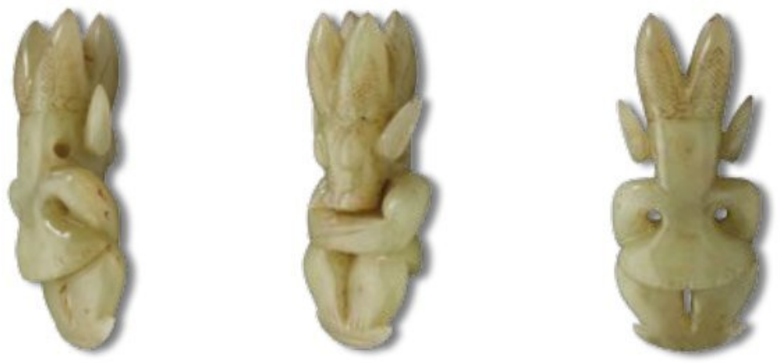
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A BIRD OF PREY
鷹形玉佩
Width 5.7 cm
寬 5.7 厘米

4
SEATED HUMANOID FIGURE WITH ANIMAL FEATURES
玉獸像坐人

This rather daunting miniature sculpture belongs to one of the most intriguing and mysterious categories of Hongshan jades formed by a small group of humanoid figurines, mostly known from Chinese and Western collections. The present carving is finely detailed and depicts a seated figure with a large bovine-like head. The arms, placed one over the other, rest horizontally on the bent knees, [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



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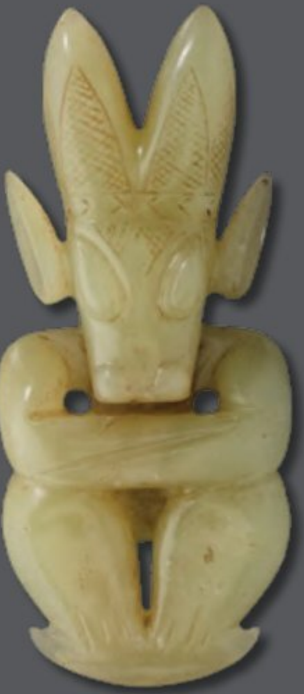


4

Height 7.7 cm

高 7.7 厘米

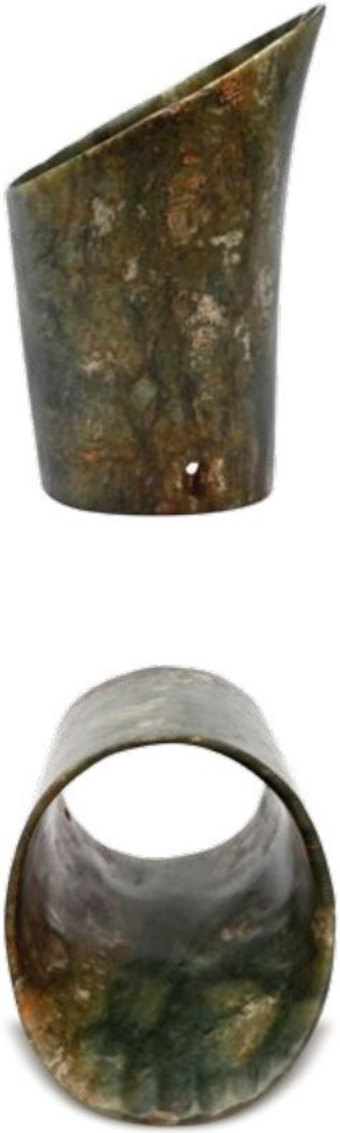
5-7
THREE HOOF-SHAPED SLANTING TUBES
三蹄形斜口筒形玉器

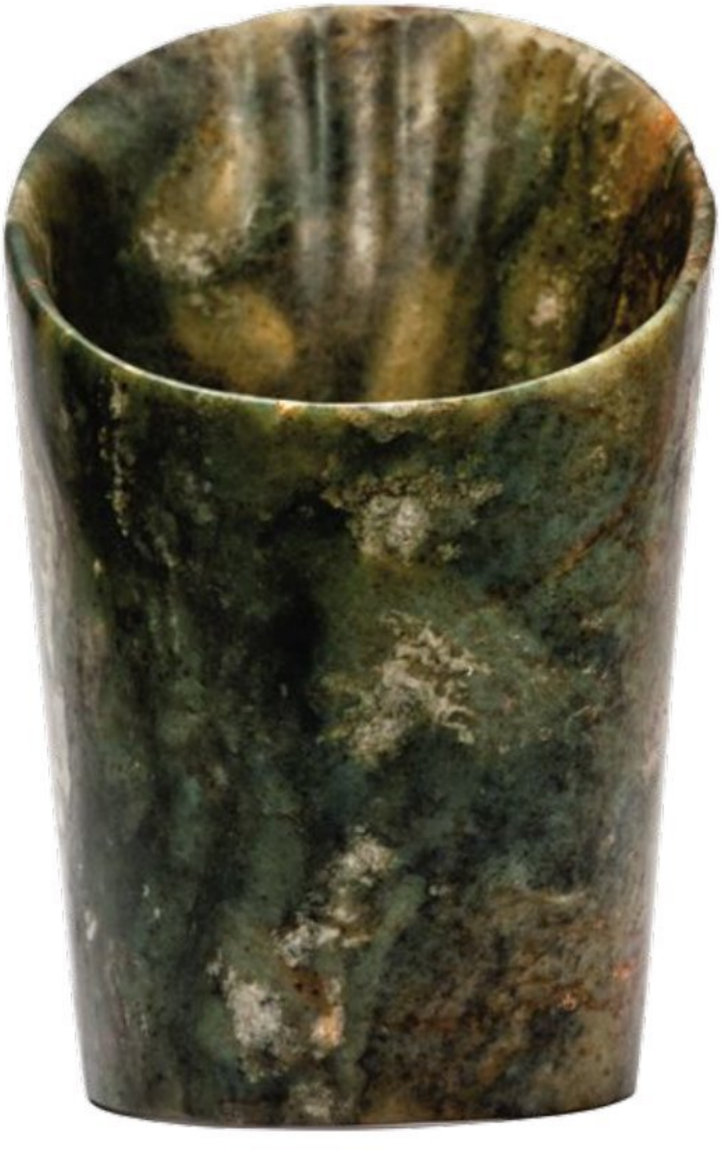
These elegantly shaped tubular ornaments are among the most peculiar objects created by the skilled Hongshan carvers, who worked jade into shapes which almost seem to defy the hardness of [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]


Two views of ornament no.5.



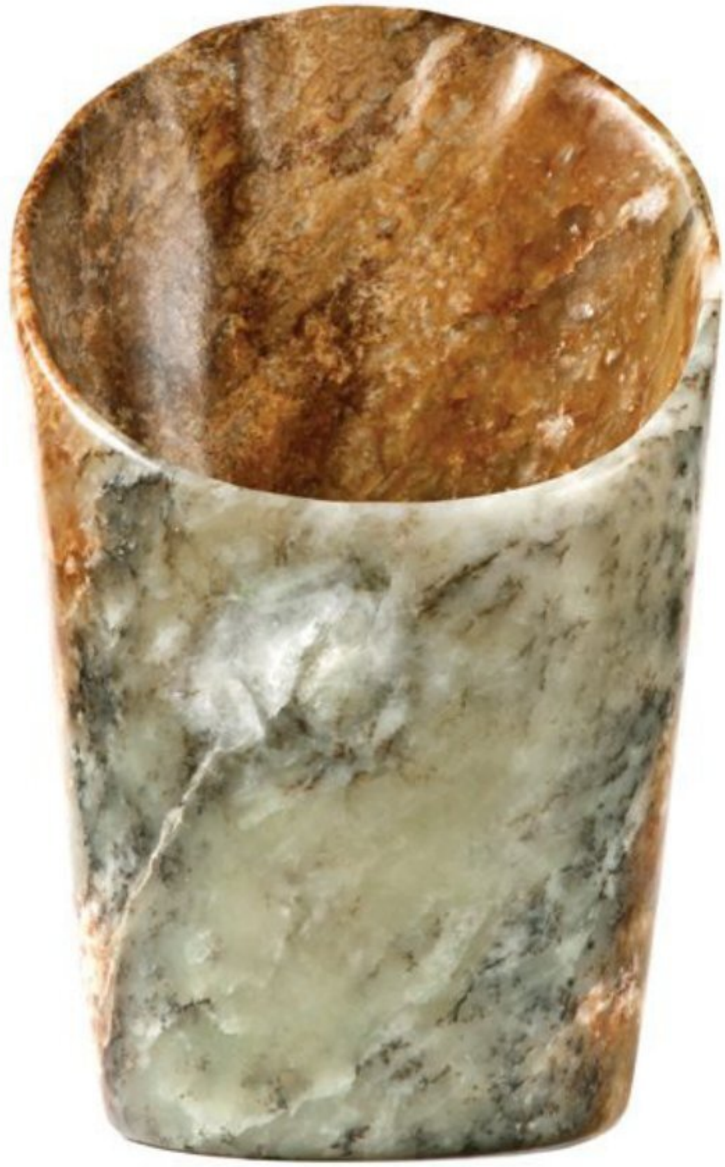
5

Height 15.6 cm - Width 11.8 cm

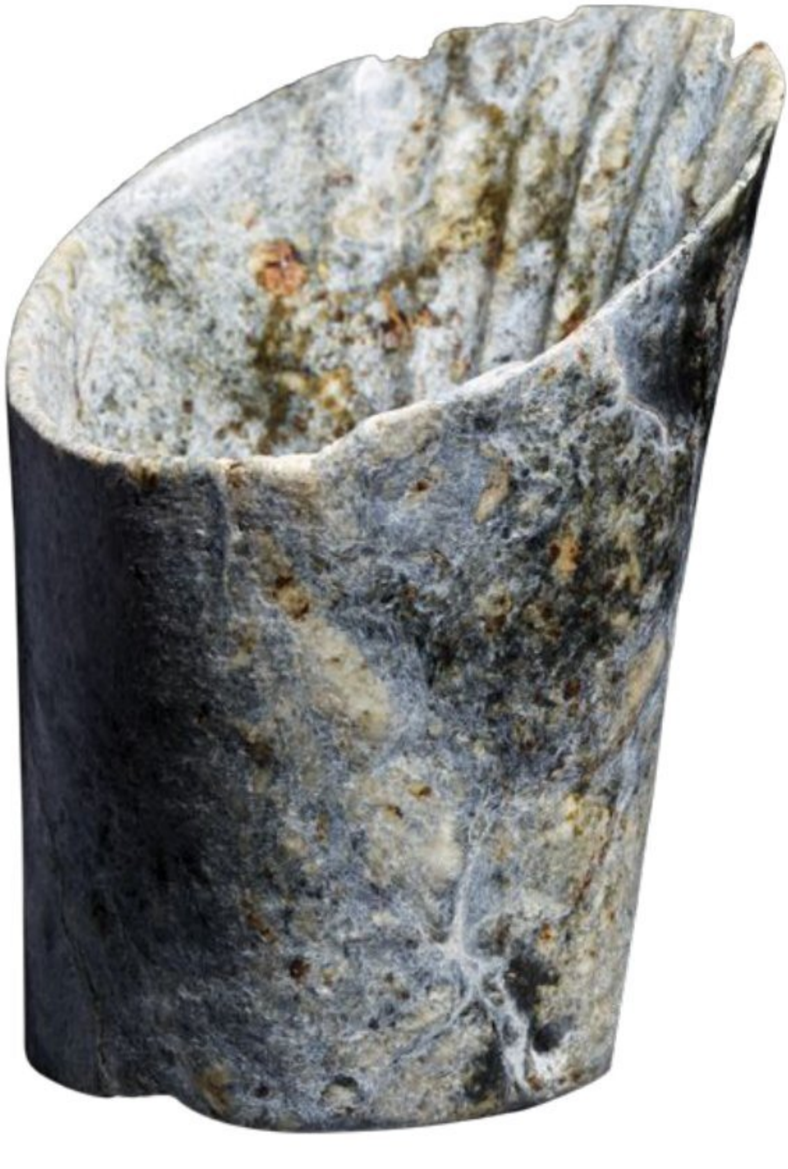
高 15.6 厘米 - 寬 11.8 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

HOOF-SHAPED SLANTING TUBES
蹄形, 斜口筒形玉器



6
Height 14.6 cm - Width 7 cm
高 14.6 厘米 - 寬 7 厘米



7
Height 15.5 cm - Width 6.9 cm
高 15.5 厘米 - 寬 6.9 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

8-13
SIX COILED DRAGON PENDANTS, *ZHULONG*
六玉猪龍

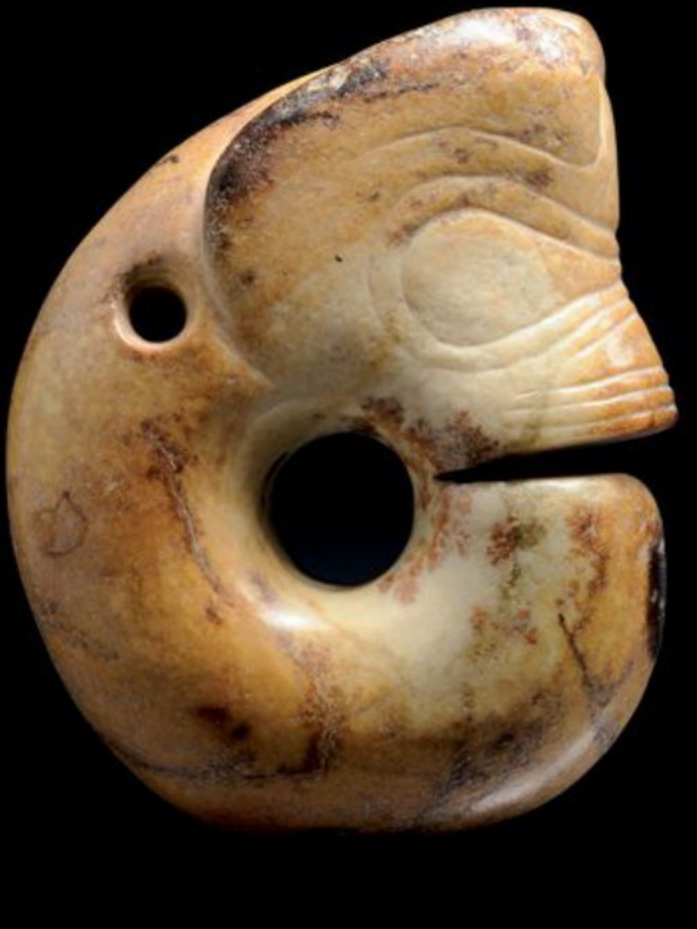
Jades worked in the round in the shape of coiled creatures with dragon-like features are probably the most famous of all Hongshan carvings and have somehow become the visual symbol of this late Neolithic culture.[1] These jades, primarily discovered in graves of the [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

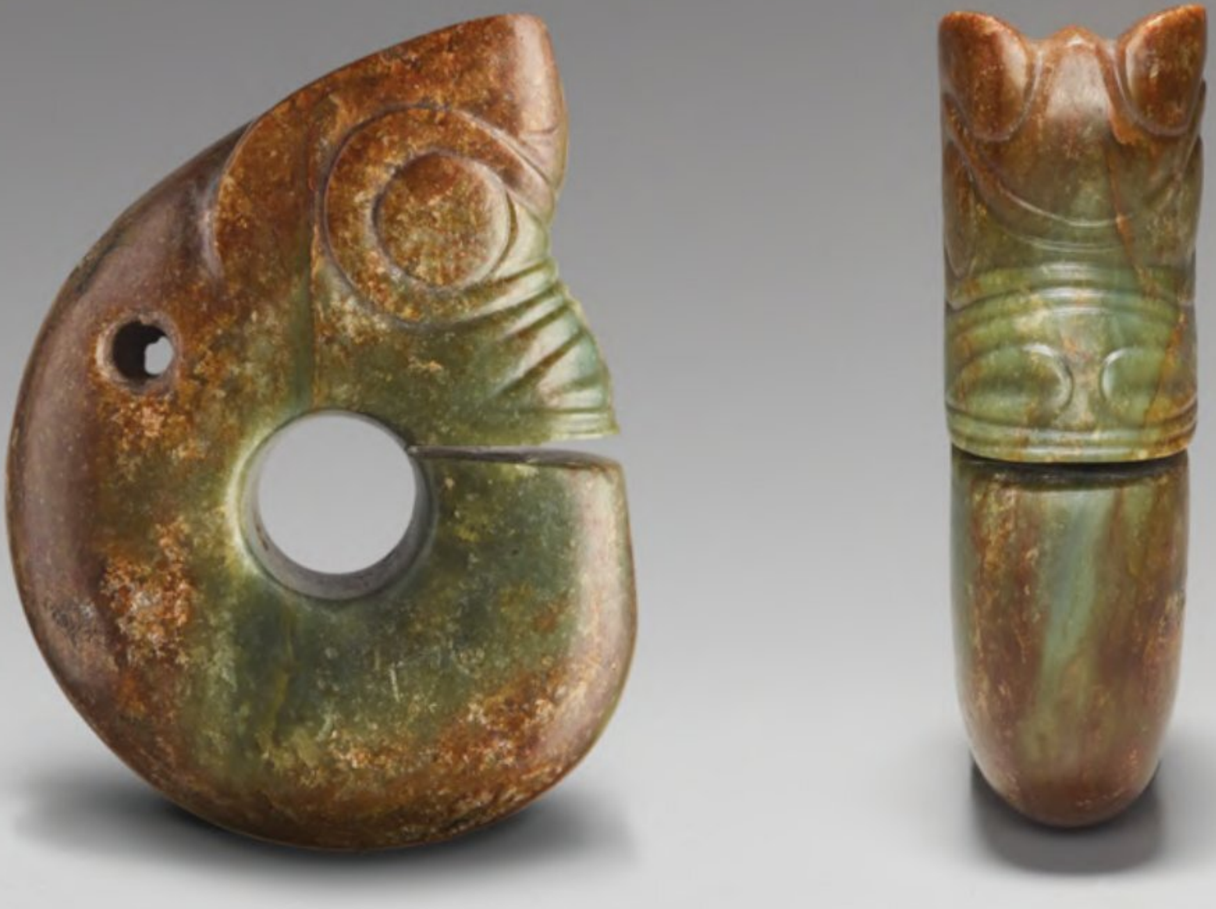
[redacted]



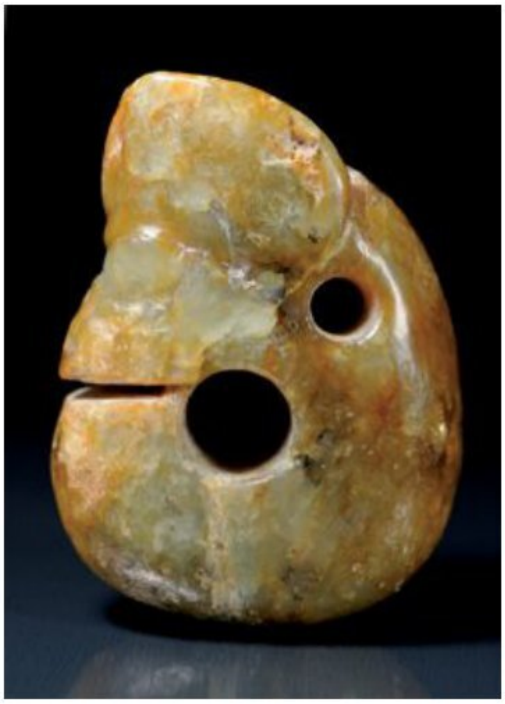
8
Height 9 cm
高 9 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化，公元前 4500-3000

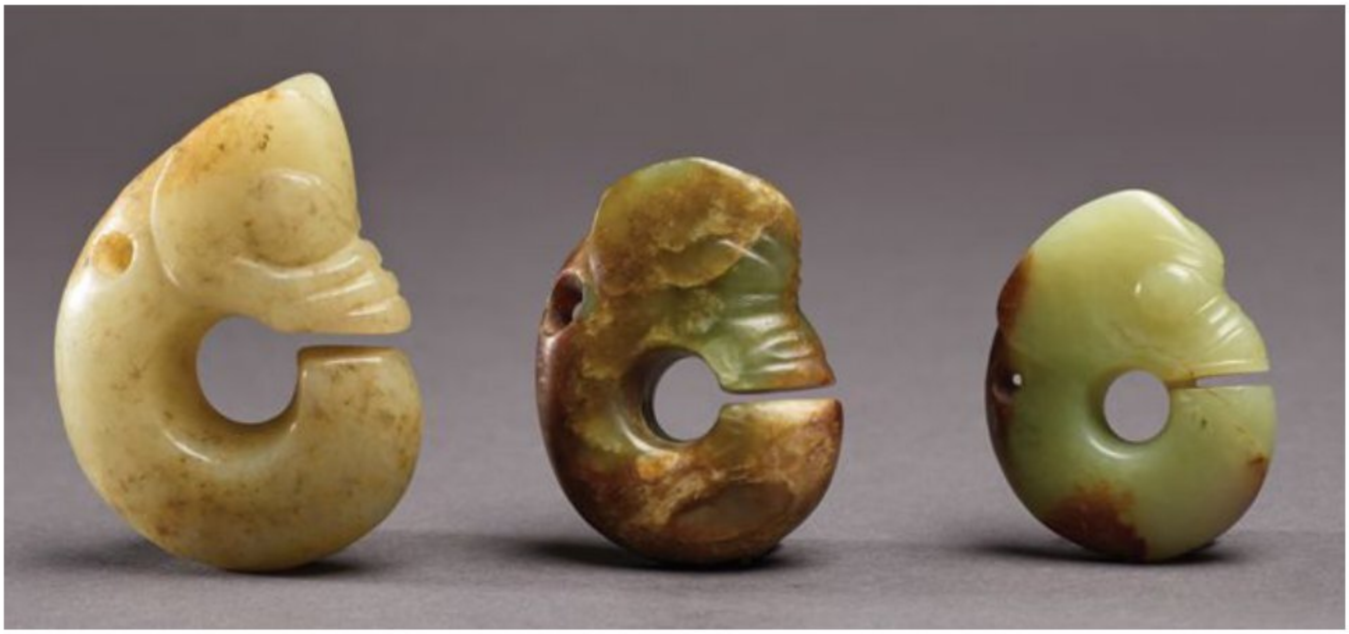
COILED DRAGON PENDANTS, *ZHULONG*
玉猪龍



9
Height 11 cm
高 11 厘米
Lateral and frontal views of the coiled dragon.



10
Height 5.3 cm
高 5.3 厘米



11
Height 5.6 cm
高 5.6 厘米

12
Height 4.4 cm
高 4.4 厘米

13
Height 4.2 cm
高 4.2 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

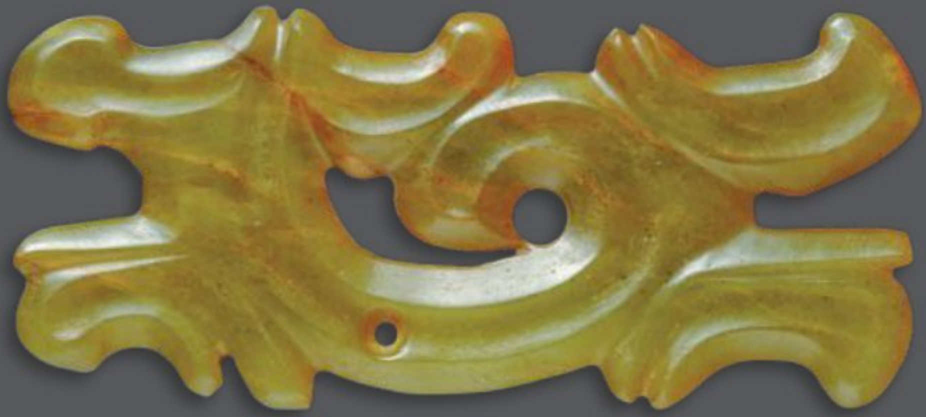
14-15
TWO *GOUYUN* ‘HOOKED-CLOUD’ PENDANTS
两勾雲形玉佩

Very thin plaques or pendants worked in seemingly abstract shapes, called *gouyun* 勾雲 in Chinese, or ‘hooked-cloud’ jades, form another major category of Hongshan carvings and occur in a number of [redacted]

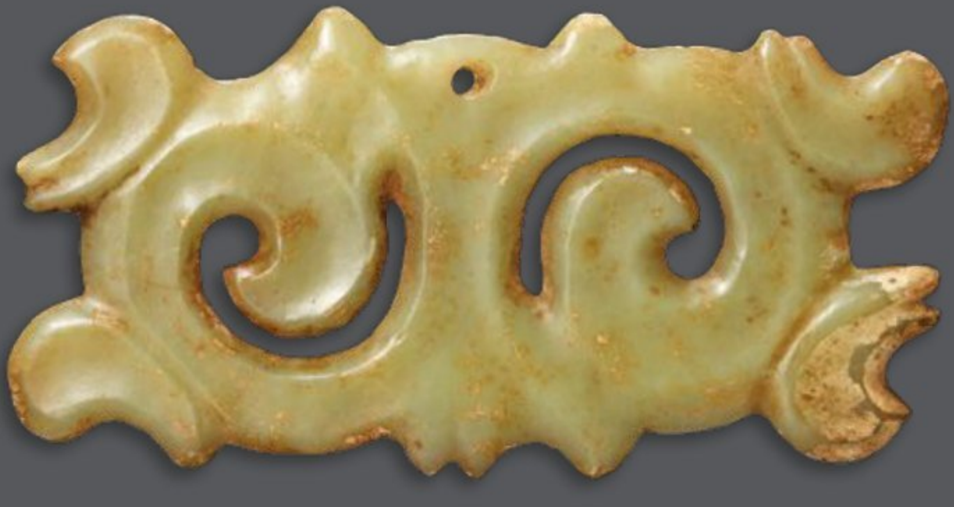
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



14
Length 8.4 cm
長 8.4 厘米



15
Length 10.9 cm
長 10.9 厘米

16-21

SIX *GOUYUN* 'HOOKED-CLOUD' PENDANTS

六勾雲形玉佩

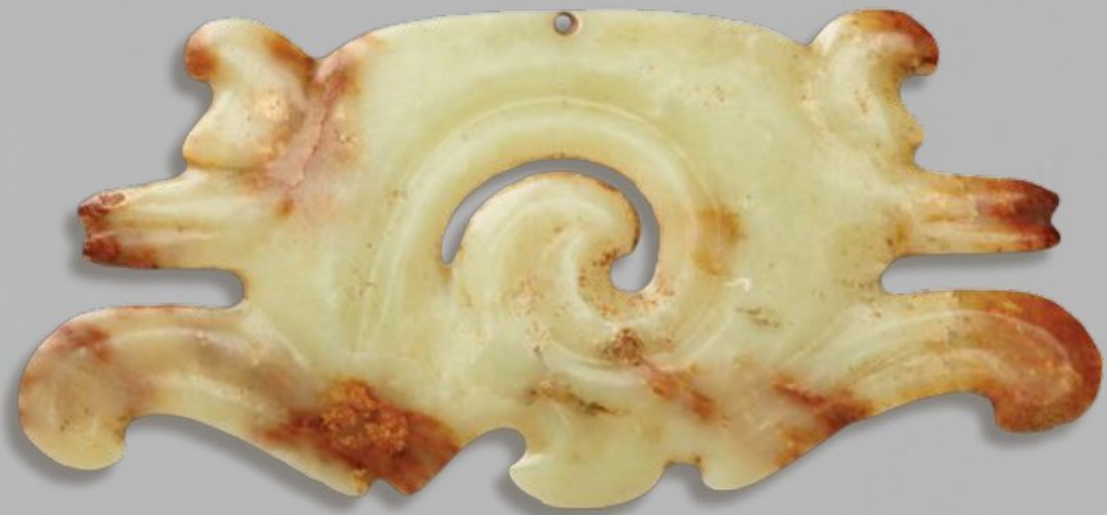
The cloud-shaped pendants grouped here show some interesting variations of the basic type just discussed. The first two jades, nos.16 and 17, are characterized by the presence of additional protrusions, carved between the [redacted]

[redacted]

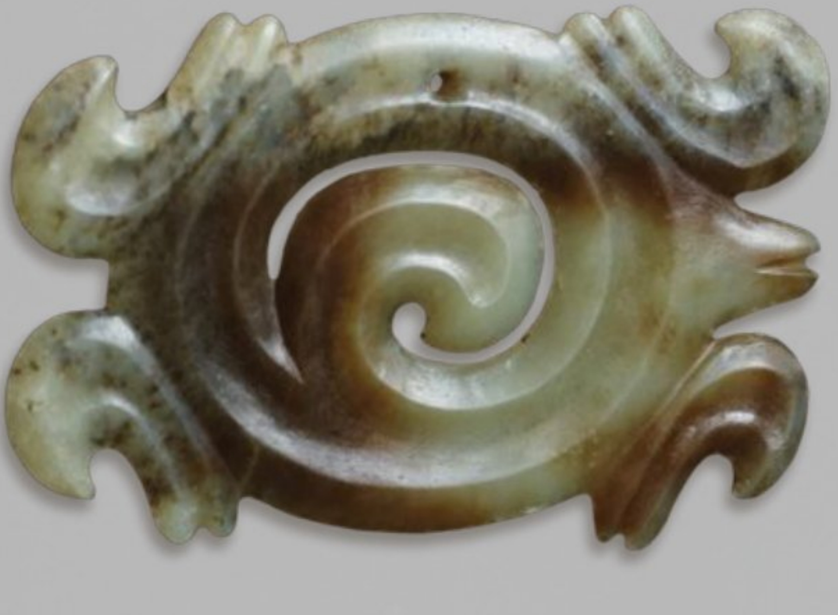
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



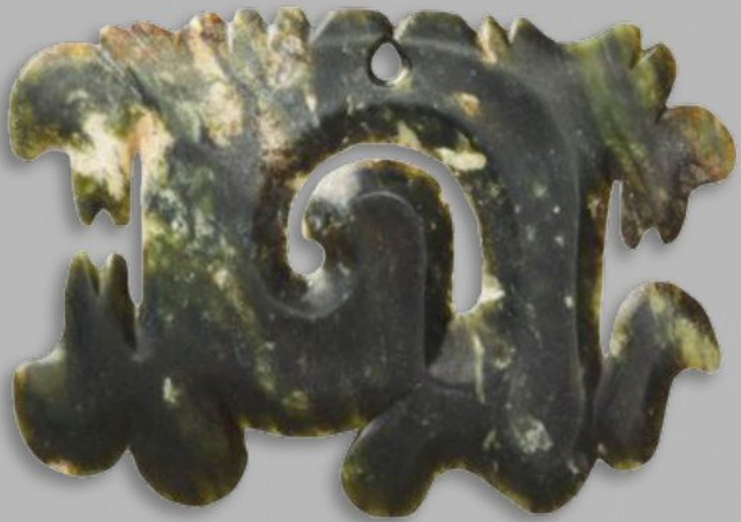
16
Length 18 cm
長 18 厘米



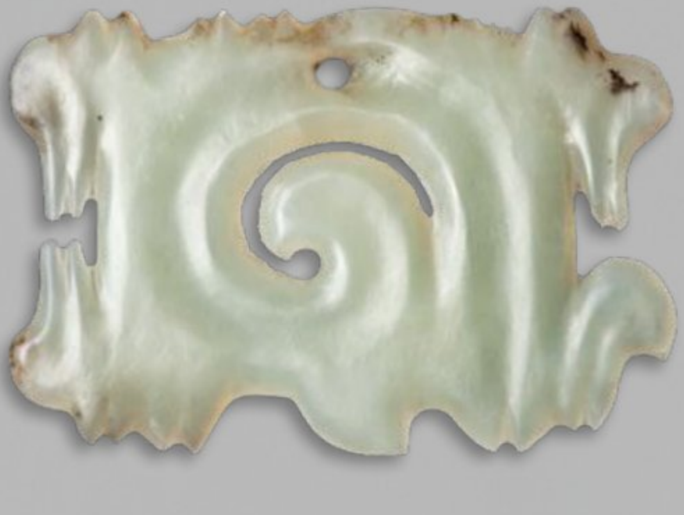
17
Length 11.5 cm
長 11.5 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

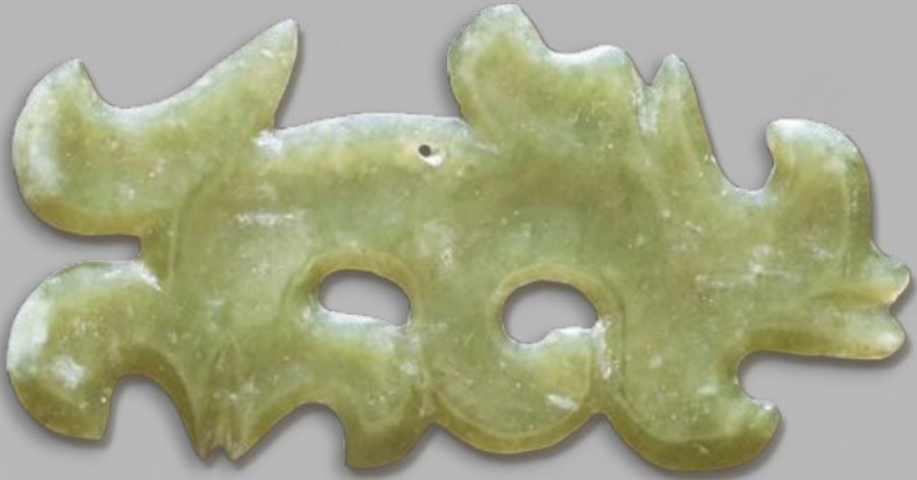
GOUYUN 'HOOKED-CLOUD' PENDANTS
勾雲形玉佩



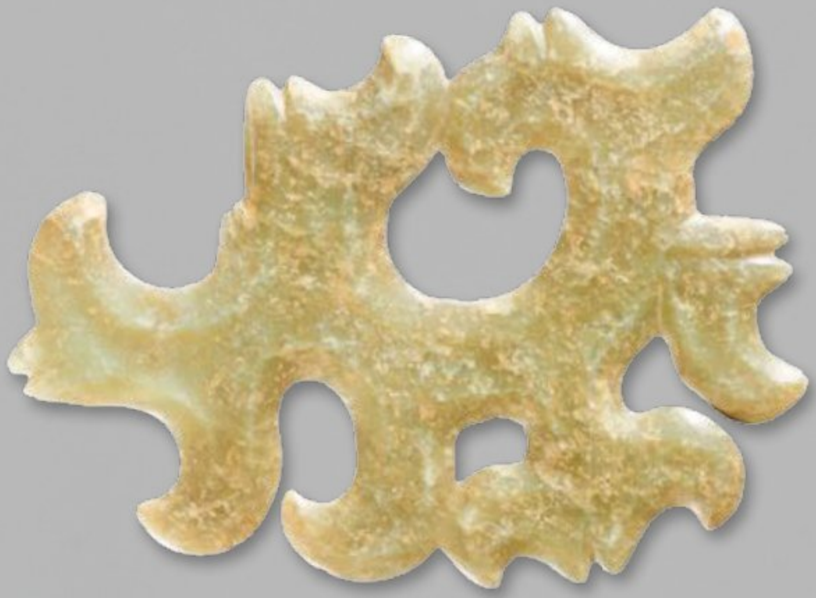
18
Length 13.5 cm
長 13.5 厘米



19
Length 6.4 cm
長 6.4 cm 厘米



20
Length 10.5 cm
長 10.5 厘米



21
Length 11.3 cm
長 11.3 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

22-26
FIVE 'TOOTHED' PENDANTS WITH MASK MOTIF
五帶齒獸面形玉佩

In recent years, imposing pendants or plaques carved with stylized masks have been excavated from tombs of the Niuheliang site: some of them rank amongst the largest Hongshan jades discovered so far and the biggest, discovered in tomb M27, measures an impressive 28.6 cm in length.[1] No.22, illustrated [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

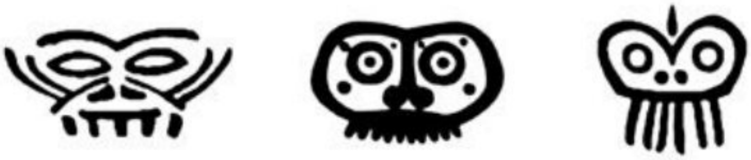
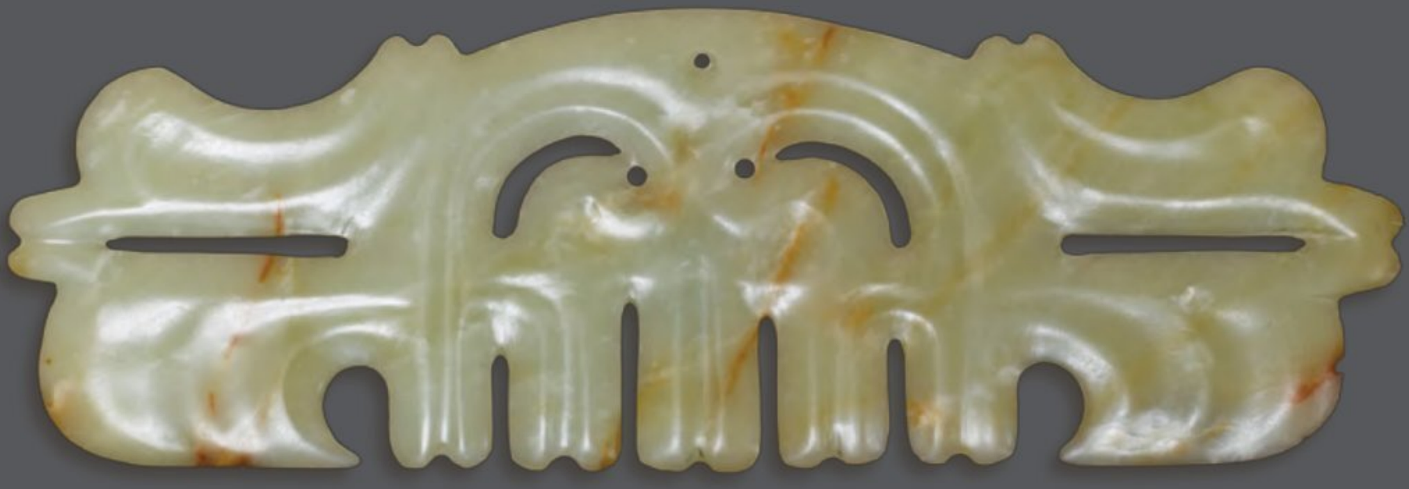


Fig.6
Drawings of masks carved on rocks at Baimiaozi, Chifeng city, Inner Mongolia.

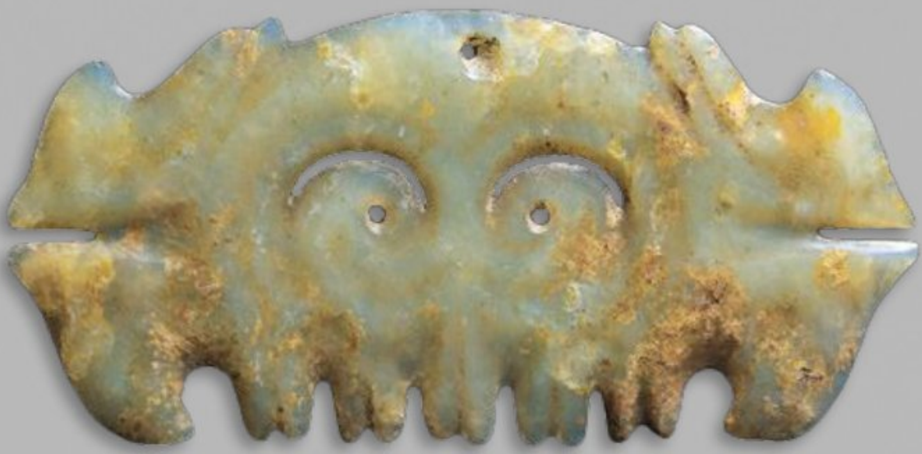
[redacted]



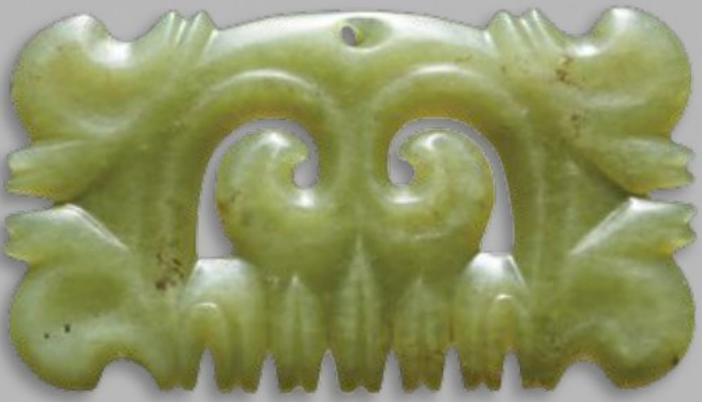
22
Length 18.1 cm
長 18.1 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

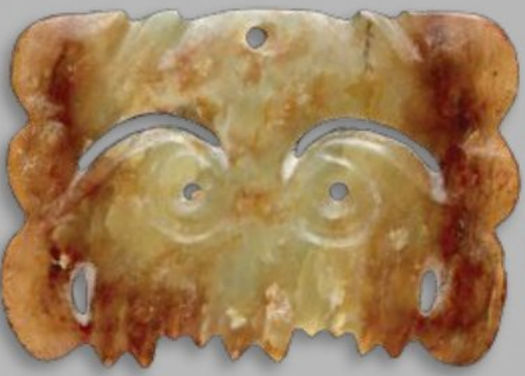
'TOOTHED' PENDANTS WITH MASK MOTIF
带齿兽面形玉佩



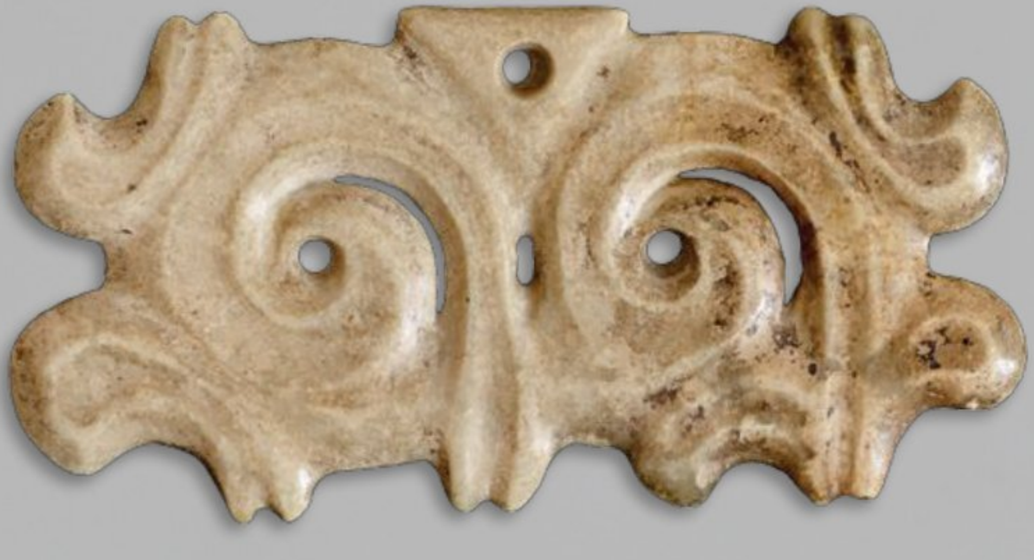
23
Length 12 cm
長 12 厘米



24
Length 8.9 cm
長 8.9 厘米



25
Length 6.7 cm
長 6.7 厘米



26
Length 13.5 cm
長 13.5 厘米

27-28

TWO FRAGMENTED ‘TOOTHED’ PENDANTS WITH MASK MOTIF

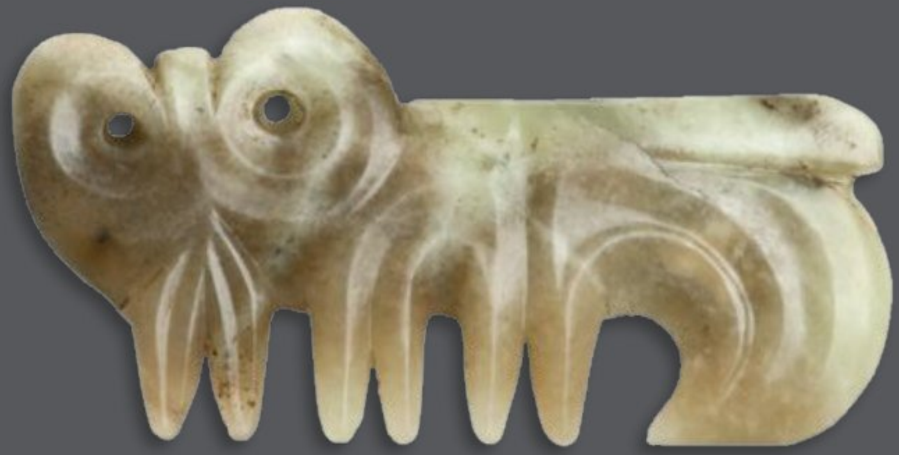
兩獸面紋片斷帶齒形玉佩

The curiously shaped carving no.27, which looks like a sort of standing animal in profile, is likely a re-worked fragment of a large ‘toothed’ pendant, of the type just described. The central [redacted]

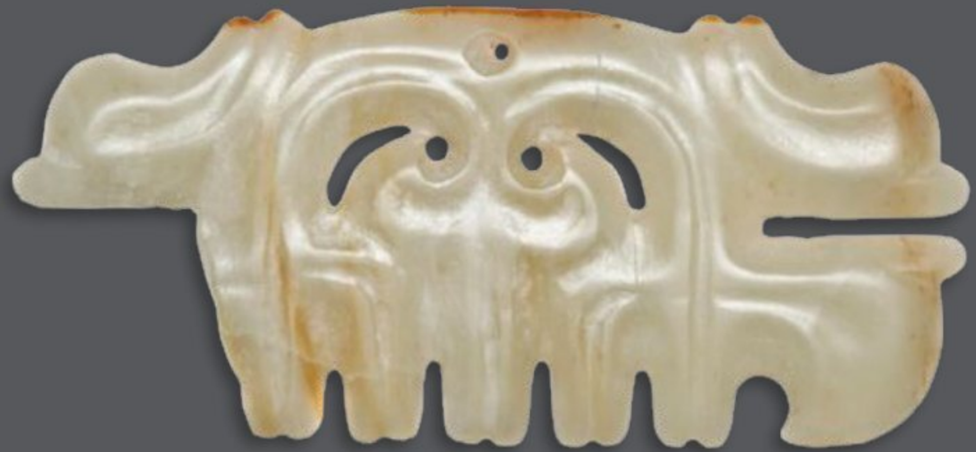
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



27
Length 10 cm - Height 4.9 cm
長 10 厘米 - 高 4.9 厘米



28
Length 12 cm - Height 5 cm
長 12 厘米 - 高 5 厘米

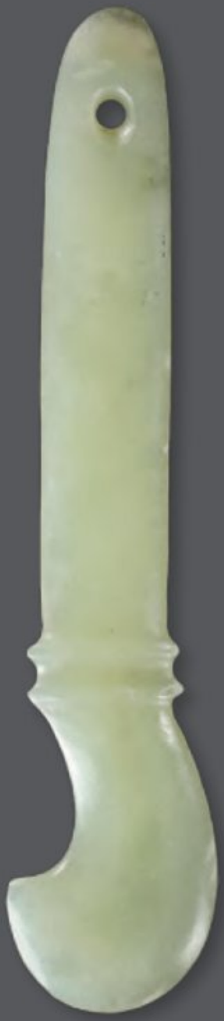
29-31
THREE HOOK-SHAPED JADES
三鉤形玉器

In addition to the larger and sometimes quite imposing jades discussed in the previous pages, the repertory of Hongshan carvings also includes small animal-shaped ornaments and pendants fashioned as miniature [redacted]

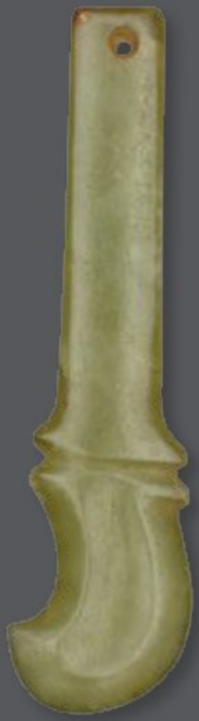
[redacted]

[redacted]

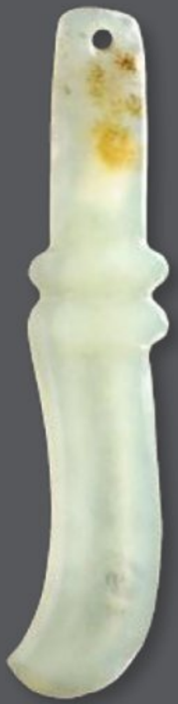
[redacted]



29
Length 11.5 cm
長 11.5 厘米



30
Length 8.1 cm
長 8.1 厘米



31
Length 7.9 cm
長 7.9 厘米

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

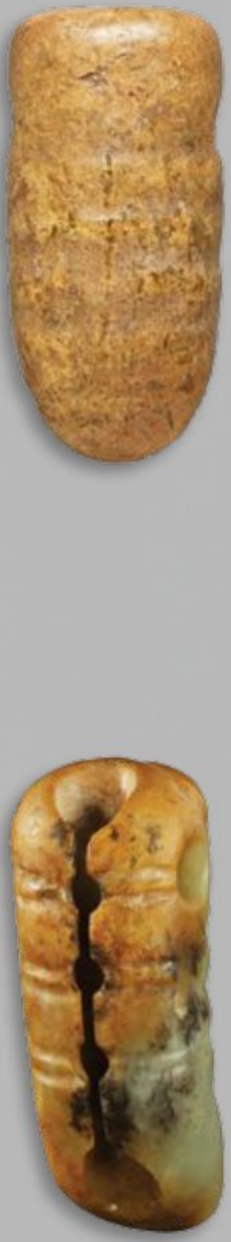
32-33
TWO PUPA-SHAPED JADES
两玉蛹

Besides imaginary creatures like the coiled dragons or the mysterious masks portrayed on 'toothed' pendants, Hongshan jades include small realistic carvings of animals [redacted]

[redacted]

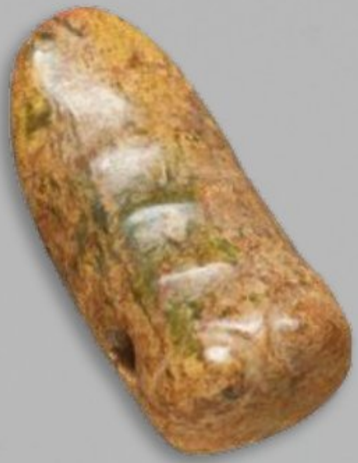
[redacted]

[redacted]

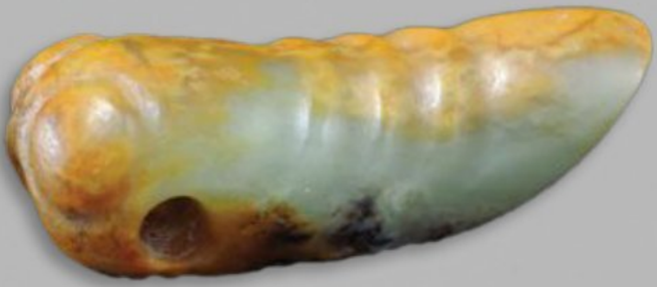


Nos.32-33
View of the bottoms of the two pupa-shaped jades.

[redacted]



32
Length 5.3 cm
長 5.3 厘 米



33
Length 5.6 cm
長 5.6 厘米

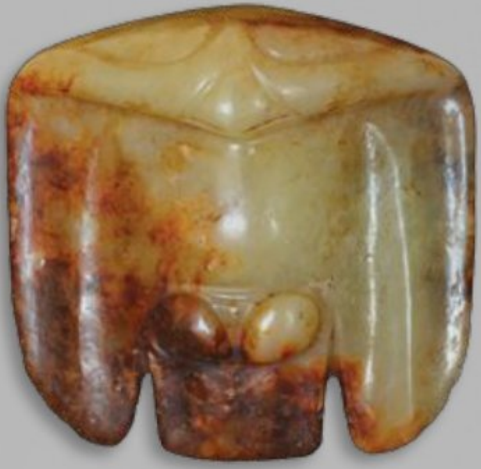
HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

34-36
THREE PENDANTS IN THE SHAPE OF BIRDS OF PREY
三鷹形玉佩

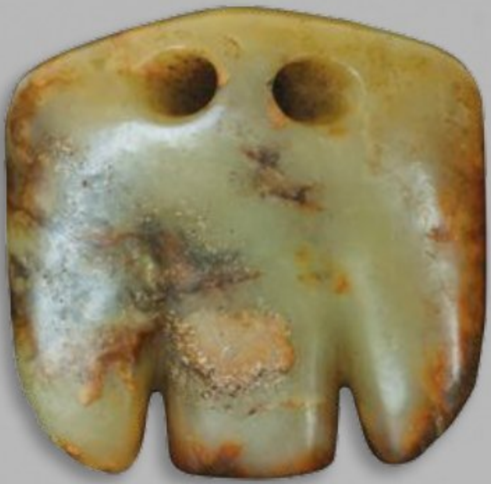
Birds recalling predators or owls form another typical category of Hongshan jades: despite their small size, they are finely detailed and rendered quite naturalistically, as shown by these [redacted]

[redacted]

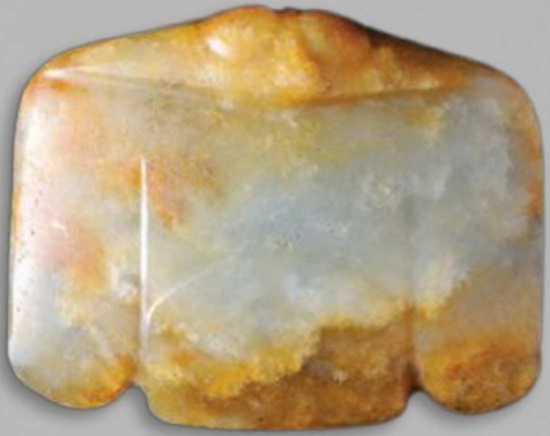
[redacted]



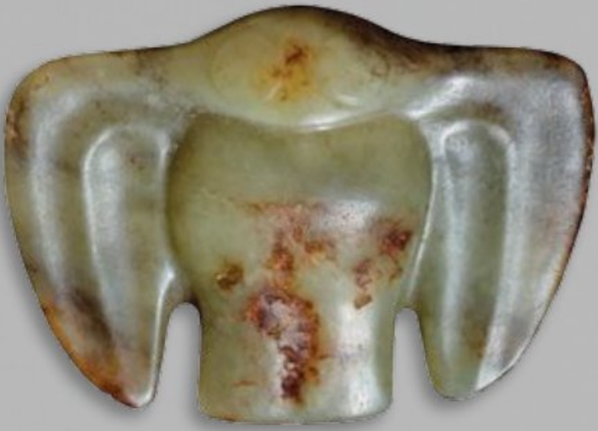
34
Width 5.7 cm
寬 5.7 厘米



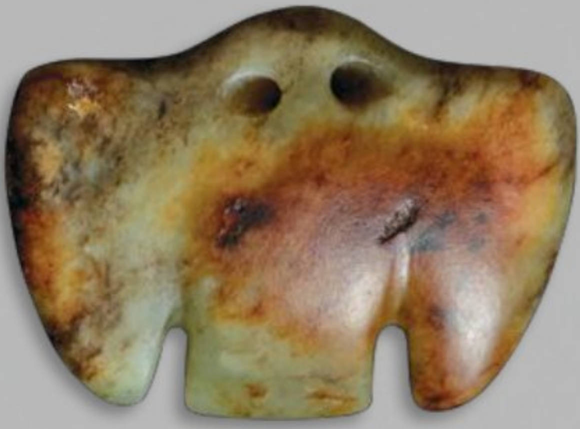
Back of no.34 with the loop-holes drilled in the jade.



35
Width 6 cm
寬 6 厘米



36
Width 6.5 cm
寬 6.5 厘米



Back of no.36 with the loop-holes drilled in the jade.

HONGSHAN CULTURE C.4500-3000 BC
紅山文化, 公元前 4500-3000

37
PENDANT WITH CARVED BIRD HEAD
鳥頭玉佩

38
Y-SHAPED JADE WITH MASK MOTIF
獸面紋丫形玉器

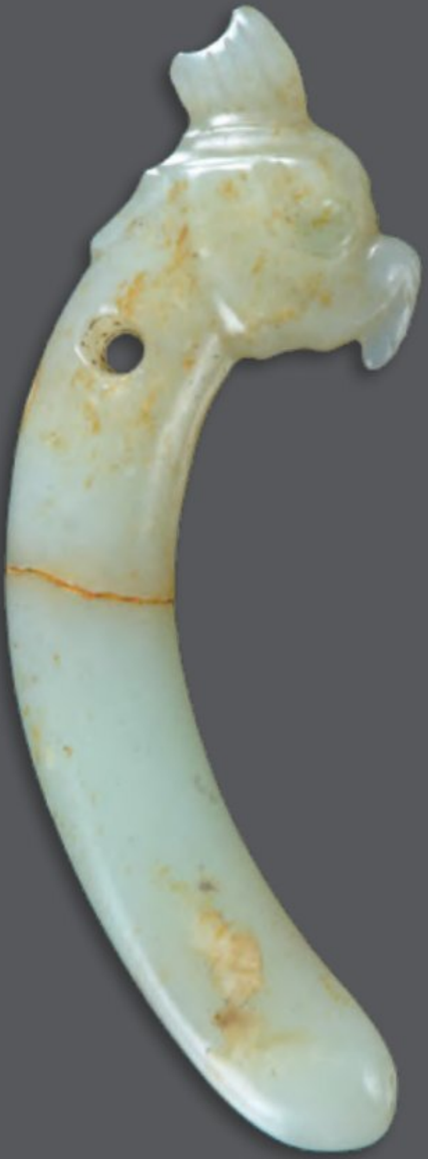
This section on Hongshan jades ends with two carvings –probably pendants, as indicated by the suspension hole- which differ from the more common types of jades carved by this late Neolithic culture.

[redacted]

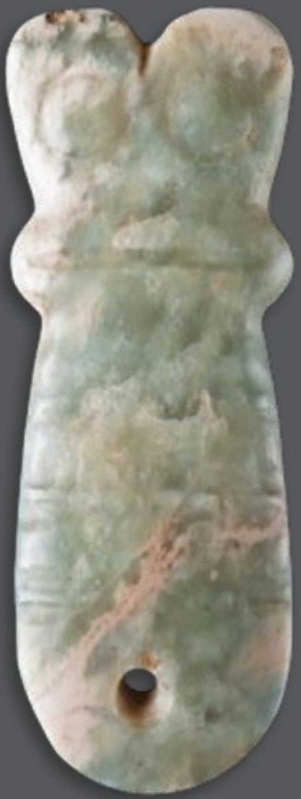
[redacted]

[redacted].[6]

[redacted]

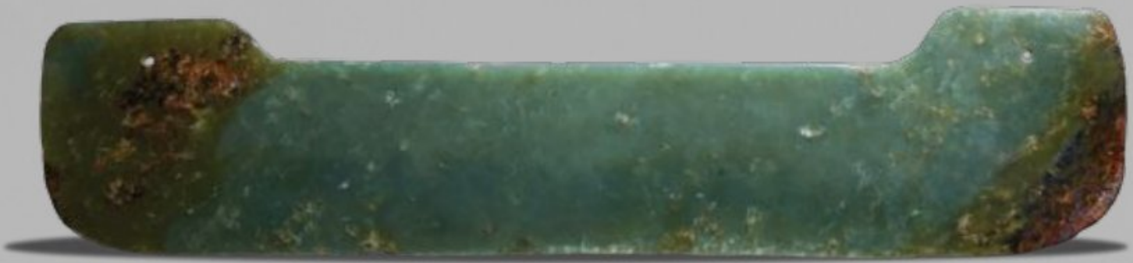


37
Length 9.6 cm
長 9.6 厘米



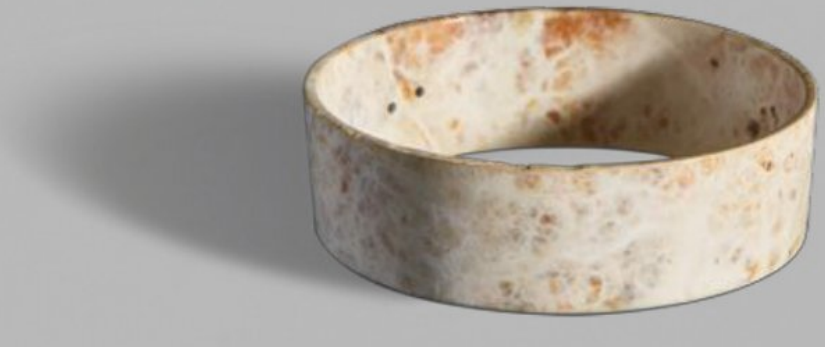
38
Length 8.1 cm
長 8.1 厘米

LINGJIATAN CULTURE C.3600-3300 BC
凌家灘文化, 公元前 3600-3300



39

***HUANG* PENDANT**
玉璜
Width 25.1 cm - Height 5.7 cm
寬 25.1 厘米 - 高 5.7 厘米



40

BRACELET
玉鐲
Diameter 6.8 - 7 cm
直徑 6.8 - 7 厘米

JADE-USING CULTURES OF SOUTHERN CHINA: LINGJIATAN, LIANGZHU AND SHIJIAHE

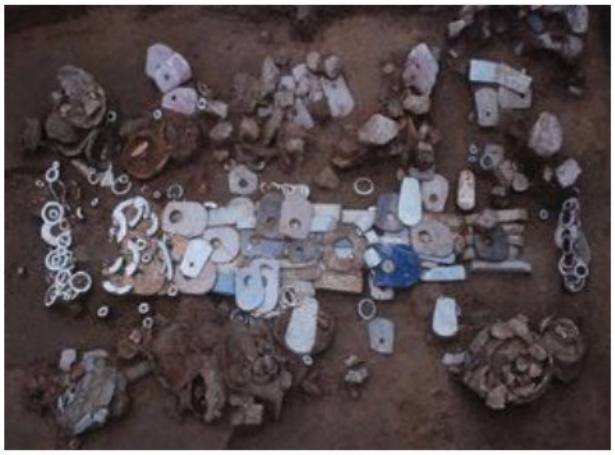


Fig.7
Tomb 07M23 of the Lingjiatan site
(Hangshan county, Anhui province)

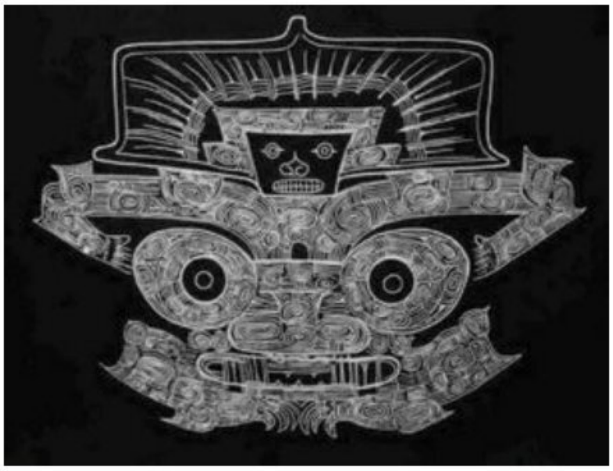
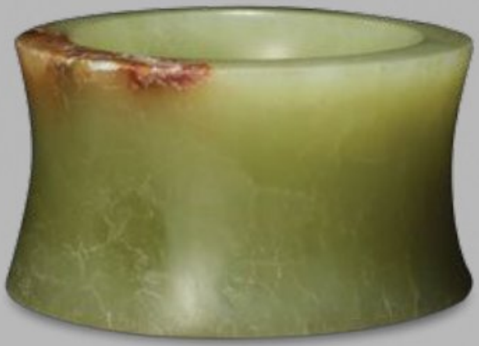


Fig.8
Drawing of the complex version of the man and animal motif carved on Liangzhu jades from tombs of the Fanshan cemetery.
(Yuhang county, Zhejiang province)

Liangzhu village, located south of Lake Tai and just a few kilometres north of the city of Hangzhou, in Yuhang county, Zhejiang province, reached world fame after the discovery, in the late 1970s, of a local [redacted]

[redacted]

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200



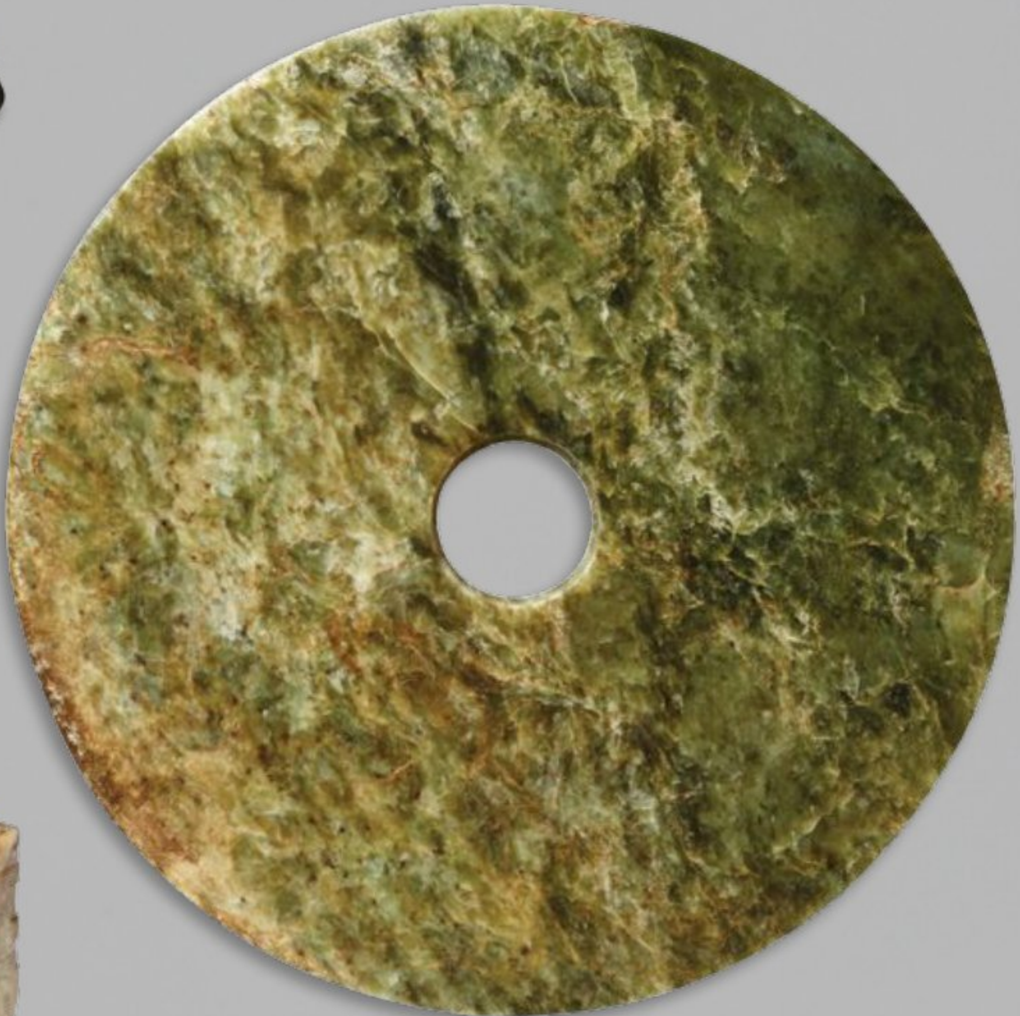
41

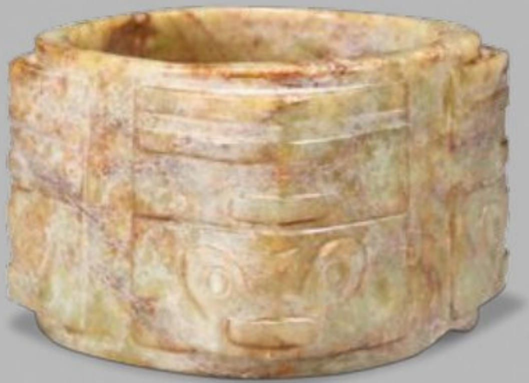
TUBULAR JADE

筒形玉器

Height 3.3 cm - Width 5.8 cm

高 3.3 厘米 - 寬 5.8 厘米





42

***CONG* DECORATED WITH MASKS**

獸面紋玉琮

Height 5.2 cm

高 5.2 厘米

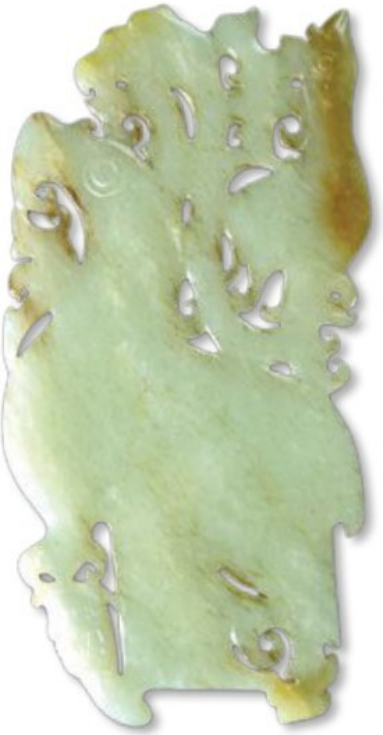
43

***BI* DISC**

玉璧

Diameter 39 cm - Hole 6 cm,

直徑 39 厘米 - 內部直徑 6 厘米



44

PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A BIRD OF PREY GRABBING A HUMAN HEAD

鷹攫人首玉佩

SHIJIAHE CULTURE, C.2500-2000 BC

石家河文化, 公元前 2500-2000

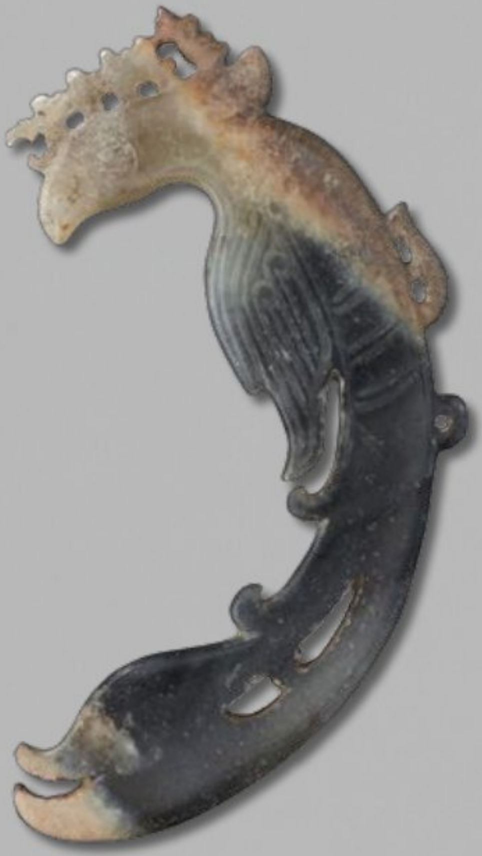
Length 9.9 cm

長 9.9 厘米

[redacted]

[redacted]

SHIJIAHE CULTURE C.2500-2000 BC
石家河文化, 公元前 2500-2000



45
PHOENIX-SHAPED PENDANT
鳳形玉佩
Length 9.9 cm
長 9.9 厘米

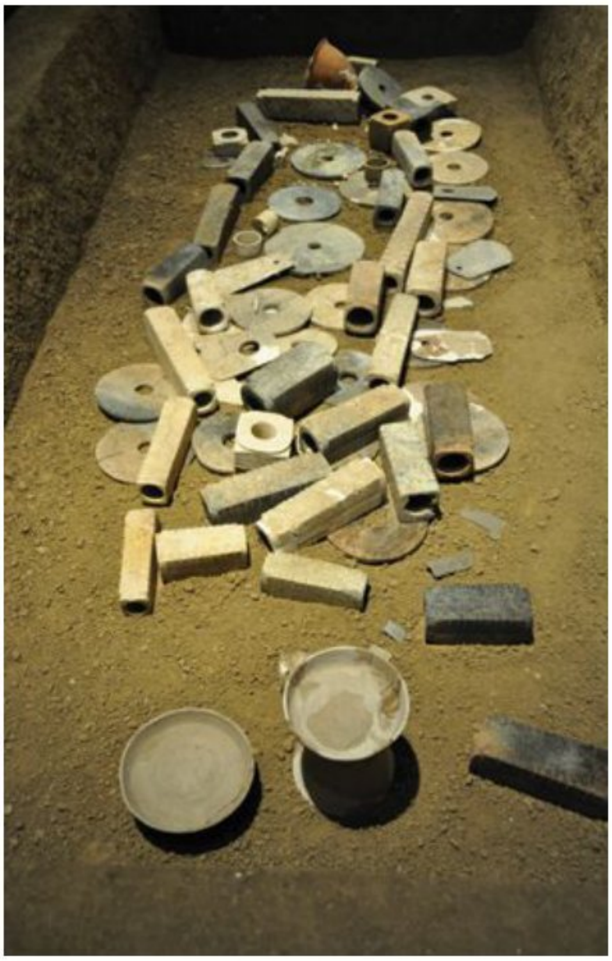


Fig 9
The Liangzhu burial M3 at Sidun (Wujin, Jiangsu) reconstructed in the Nanjing Museum.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

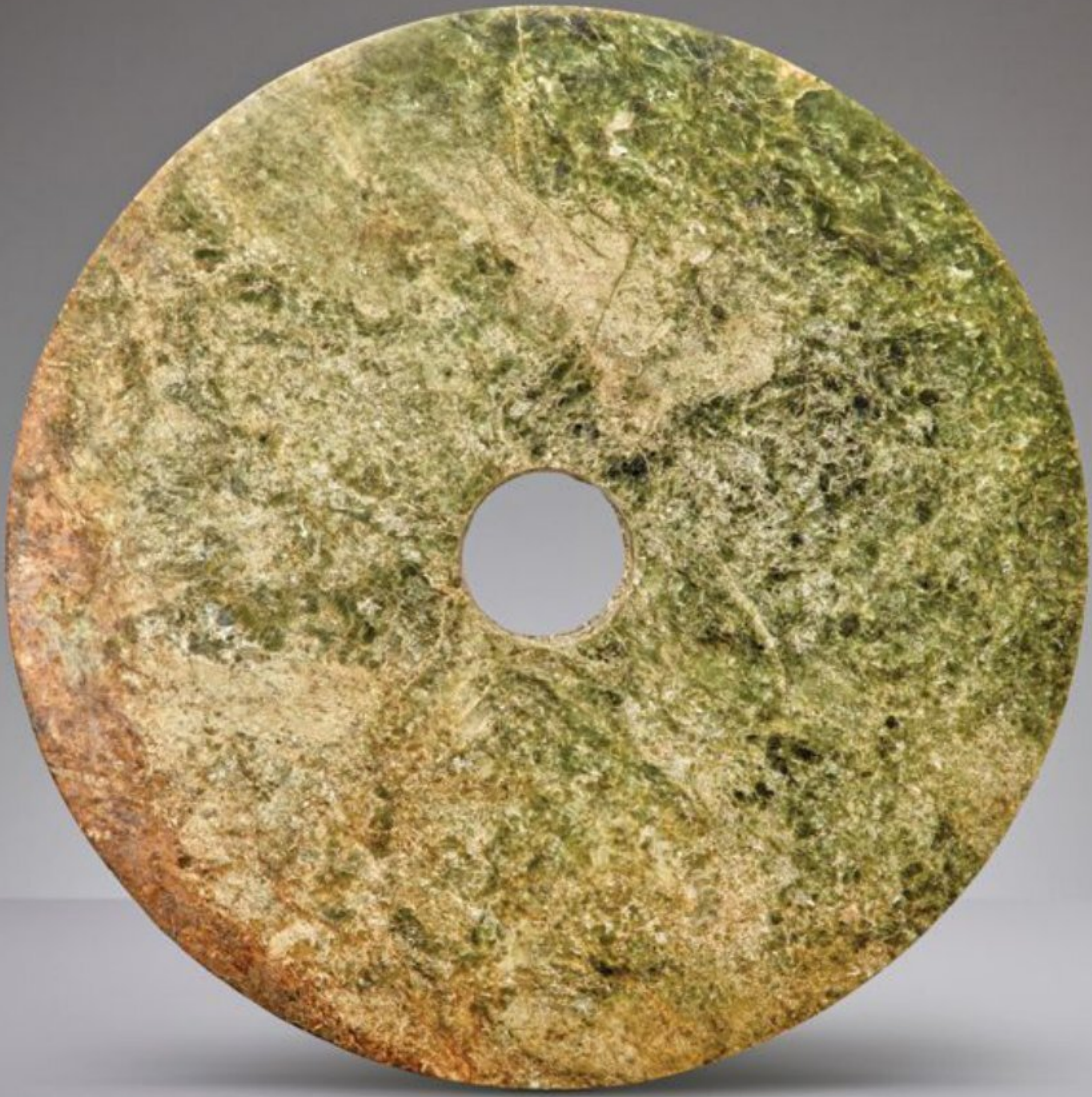
46-50
FIVE *BI* DISCS
五玉璧

The *bi* 璧 disc and the *cong* 琮 tube are amongst the most distinctive types of jades created by the Liangzhu culture: thousands of them have been found in tombs of the elite, indicating that these two jade forms had a special significance for this ancient [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

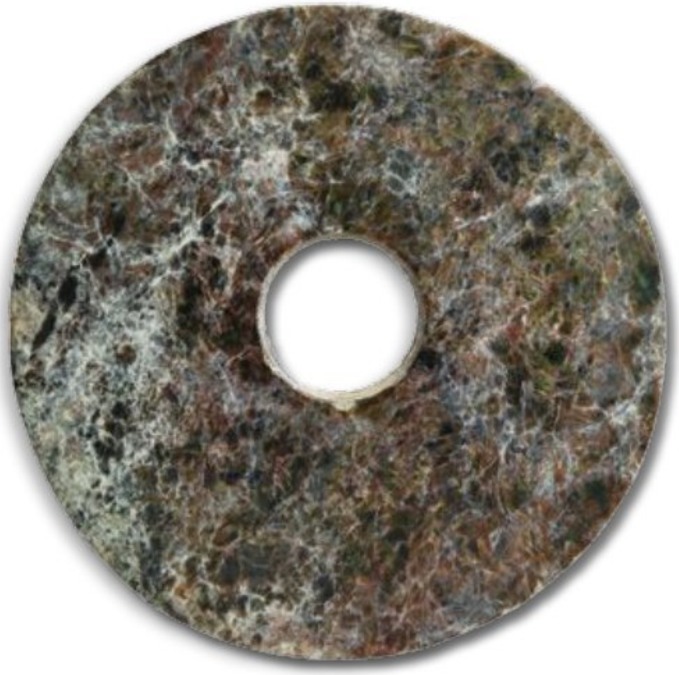
[redacted]



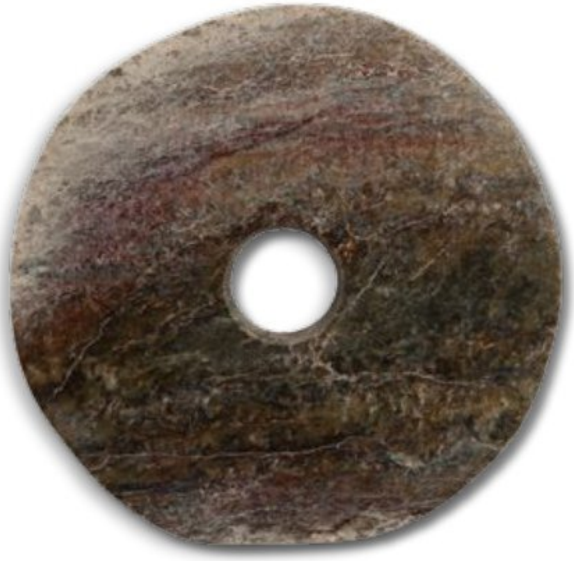
46
Diameter 45.8 cm
直徑 45.8 厘米

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

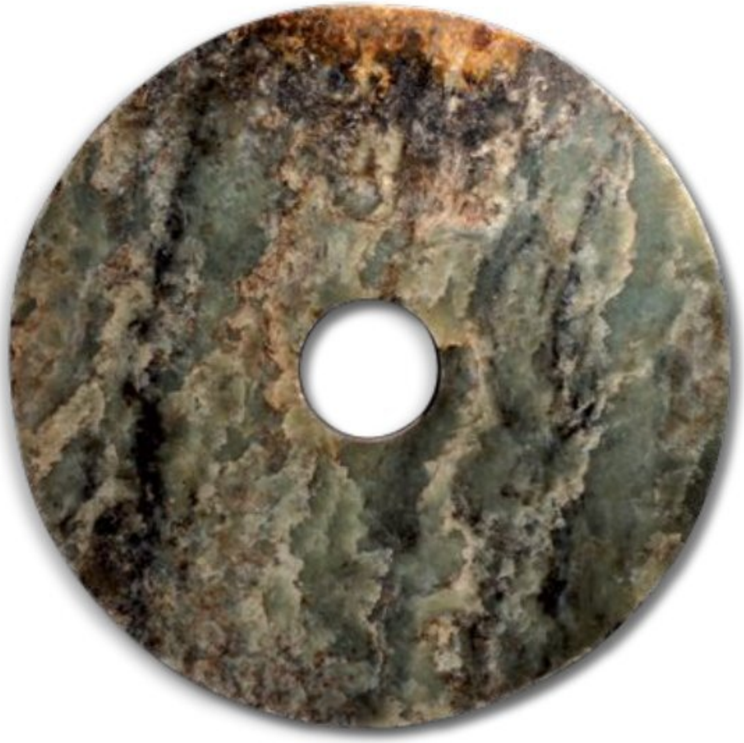
BI DISCS
玉璧



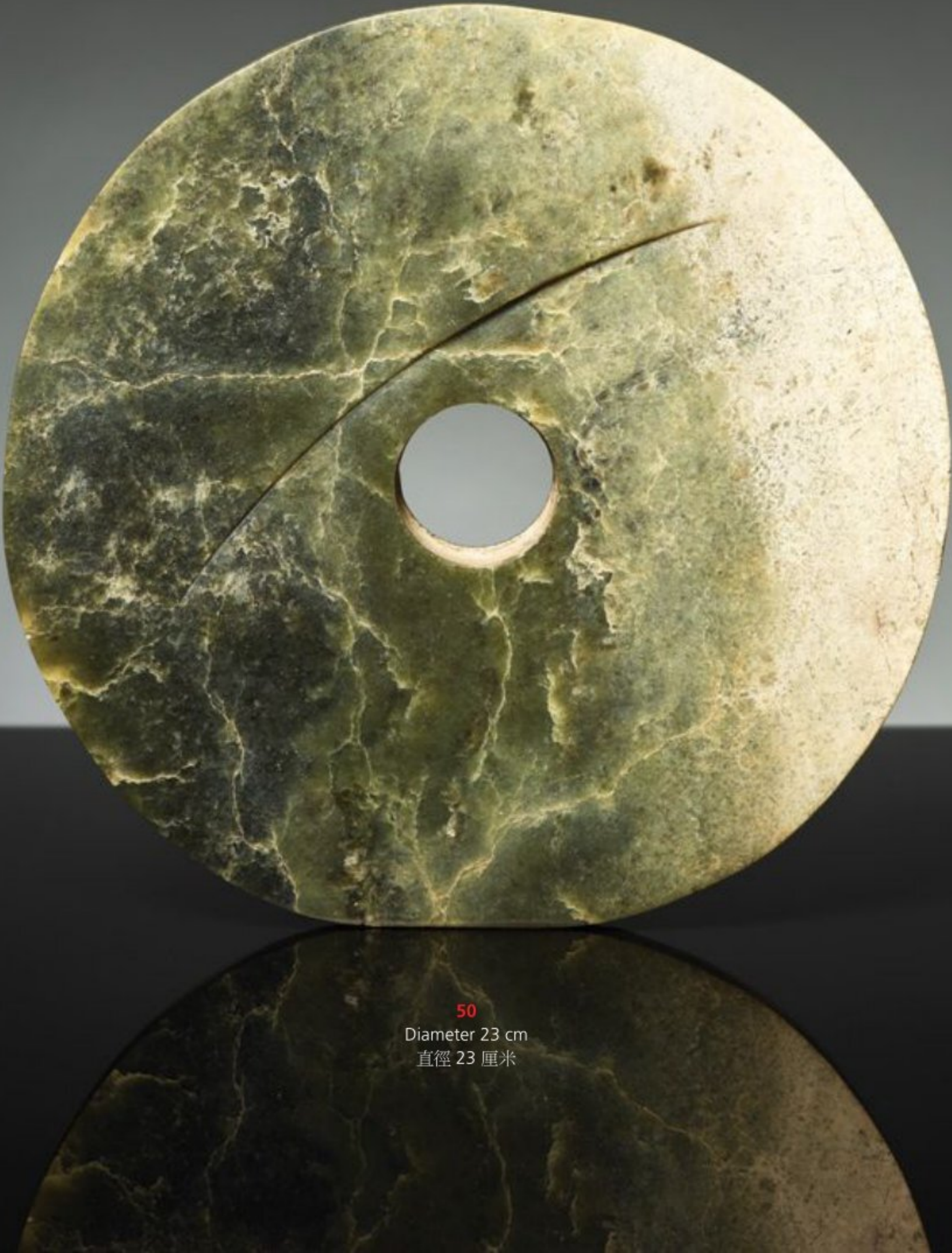
47
Diameter 16.2 cm
直徑 16.2 厘米



48
Diameter 13.7 cm
直徑 13.7 厘米



49
Diameter 21.6 cm
直徑 21.6 厘米



50
Diameter 23 cm
直徑 23 厘米

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

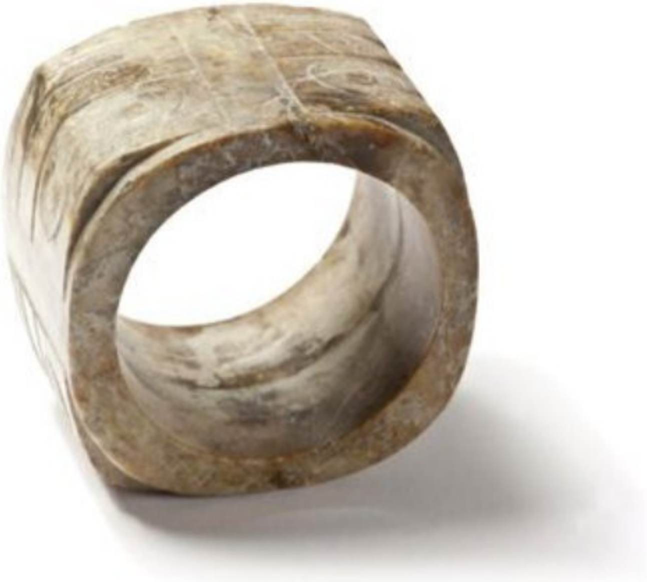
51-55
FIVE *CONG* WITH MASKS
五獸面紋玉琮

Without exaggeration, the *cong* 琮 is the most enigmatic of all Neolithic jades. Despite the numerous efforts to investigate the origin of the shape, to explain the function of the *cong* and the purpose of the decorative motifs carved on it, no [redacted]

[redacted]

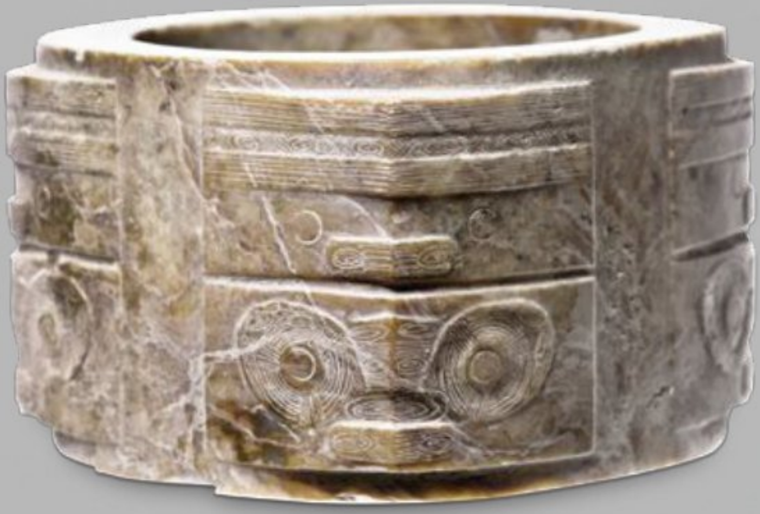
[redacted]

[redacted]



Inside view of *cong* no.51
with the ridge created
during the drilling process.

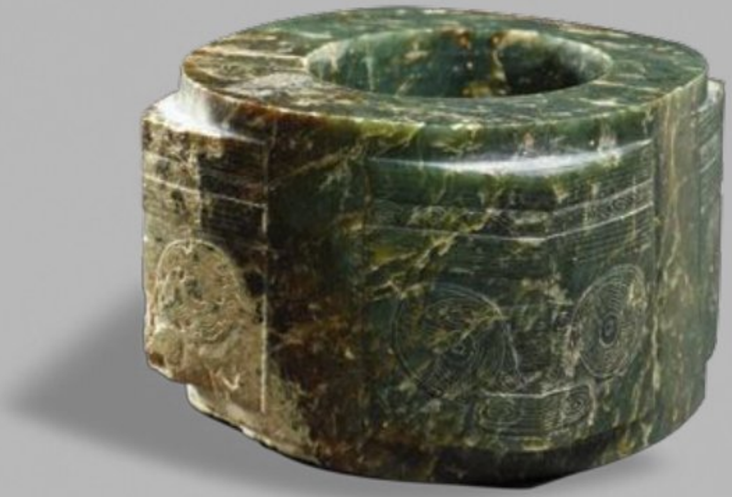
[redacted]



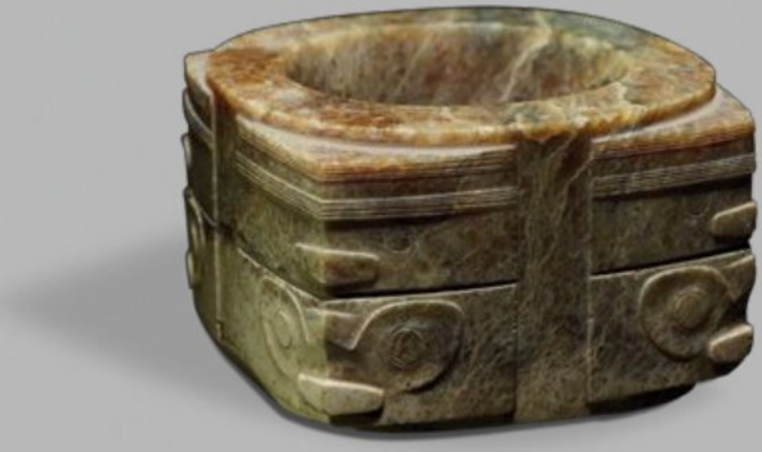
51
Height 5.2 cm
高 5.2 厘米

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

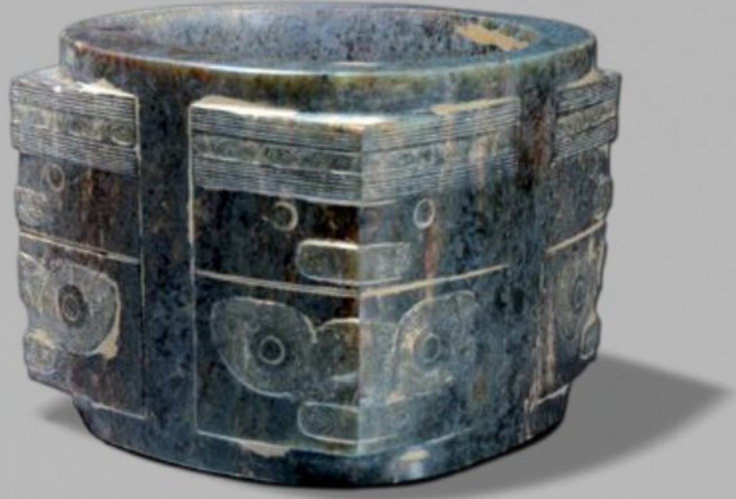
CONG WITH MASKS
獸面紋玉琮



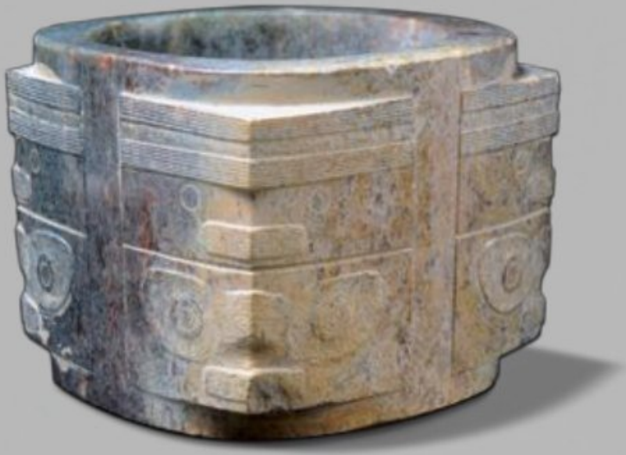
52
Height 5.3 cm
高 5.3 厘米



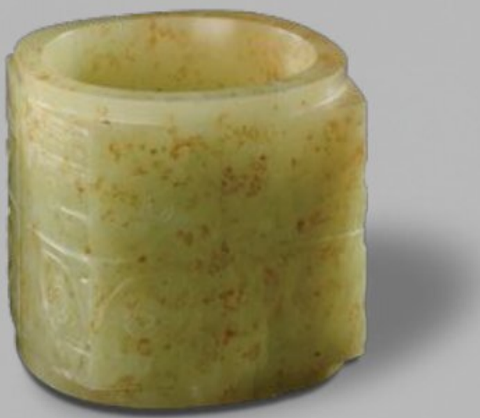
53
Height 4.8 cm
高 4.8 厘米



54
Height 6 cm
高 6 厘米



54
(two views)



55
Height 5.4 cm
高 5.4 厘米

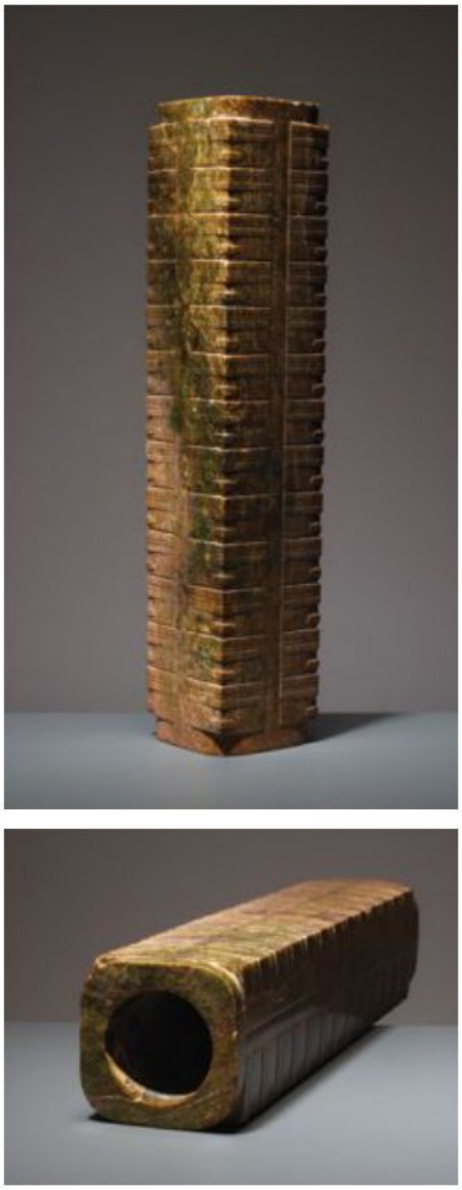
56-61
SIX *CONG* WITH MASKS
六獸面紋玉琮

As mentioned, jade *cong* 琮 display marked variations in size and height which also possibly reflect regional differences and developments within the Liangzhu culture sphere. The *cong* illustrated here, nos.56 to 61, fall within [redacted]

[redacted]

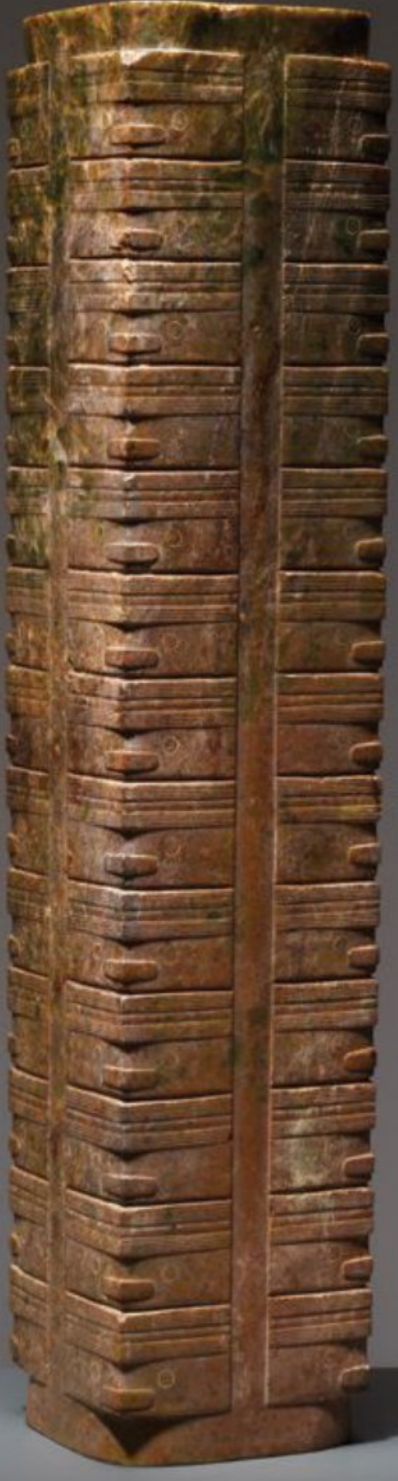
[redacted]

[redacted]



Cong no.56 seen from two different angles.

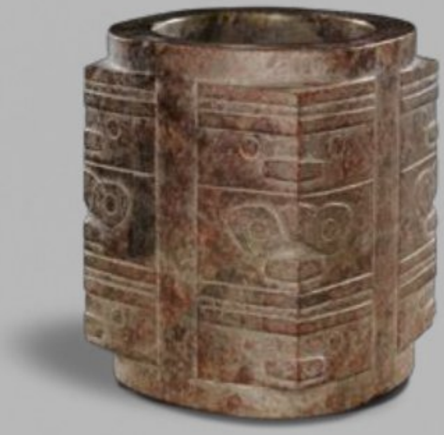
[redacted]



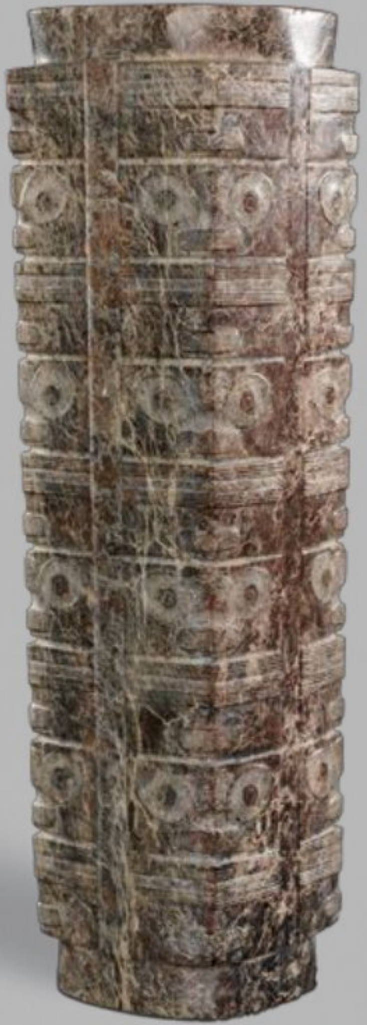
56
Height 39.2 cm
高 39.2 厘米

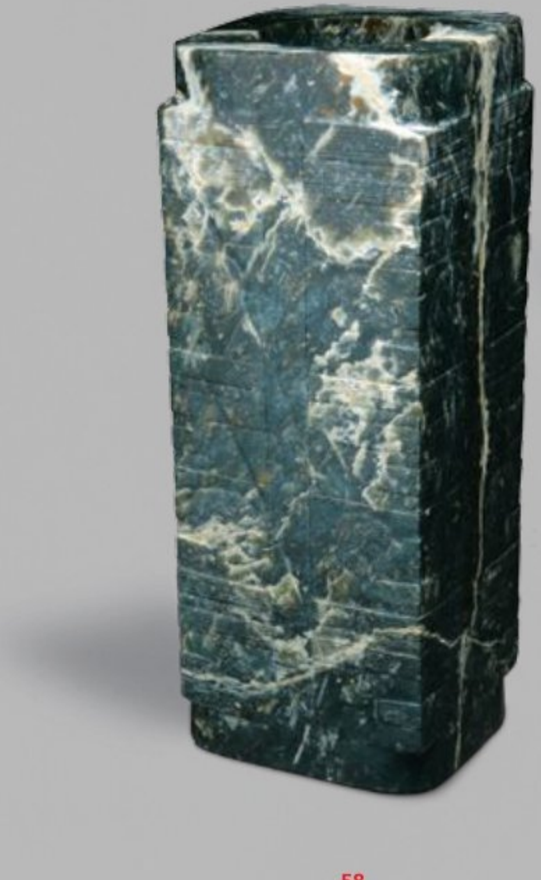
LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

CONG WITH MASKS
獸面紋玉琮



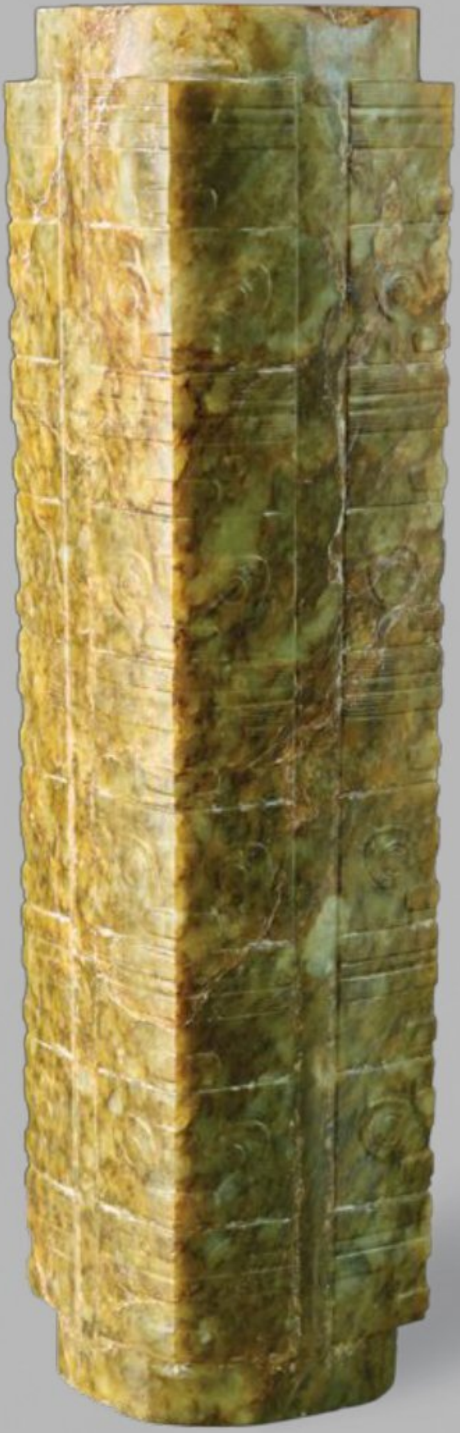
57
Height 10 cm
高 10 厘米



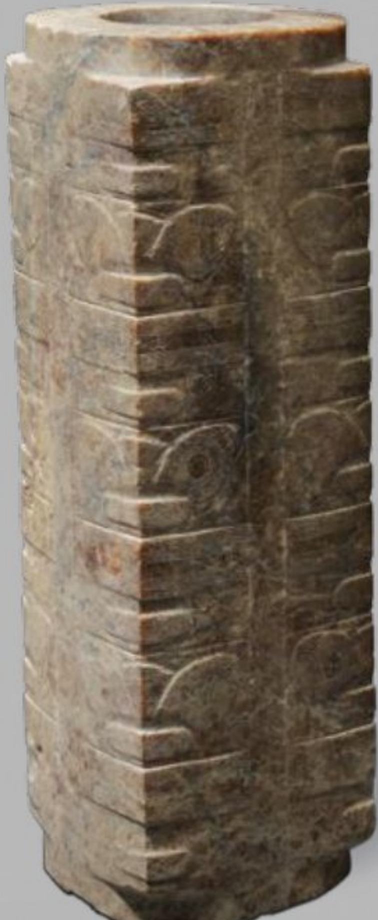


58
Height 17.9 cm
高 17.9 厘米

59
Height 21.4 cm
高 21.4 厘米



60
Height 30 cm
高 30 厘米



61
Height 20 cm
高 20 厘米

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

62
OPENWORK HEADDRESS-SHAPED *GUANXING* FITTING
鏤空冠形玉器

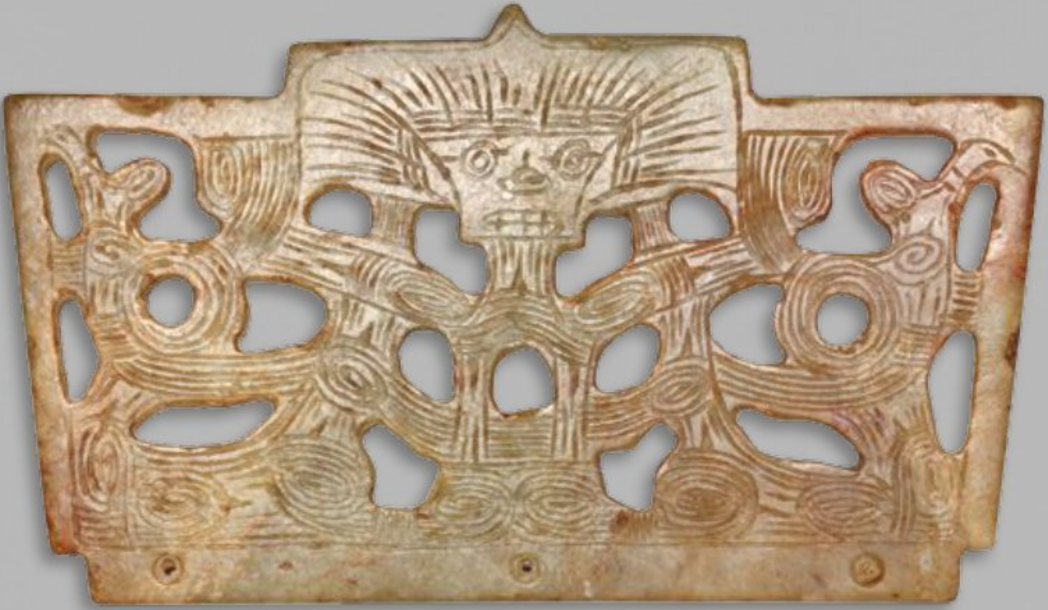
This jade and the following ones are examples of the standard typologies of ornaments discovered in the most richly furnished Liangzhu tombs, primarily those of the Yaoshan and Fanshan cemeteries in Yuhang county, Zhejiang province. These burials have [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted][2]

[redacted]



62
Height 4.2 cm - Width 7.1 cm
高 4.2 厘米 - 寬 7.1 厘米

63

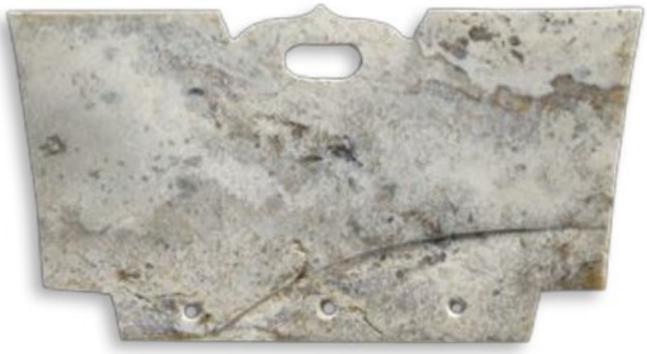
HEADDRESS-SHAPED *GUANXING* FITTING WITH MASK MOTIF

獸面紋空冠形玉器

The headdress-shaped fitting shown here, carved from a flat slab of jade and with a solid body, represents the most common type of these Liangzhu jades. Found in sites [redacted]

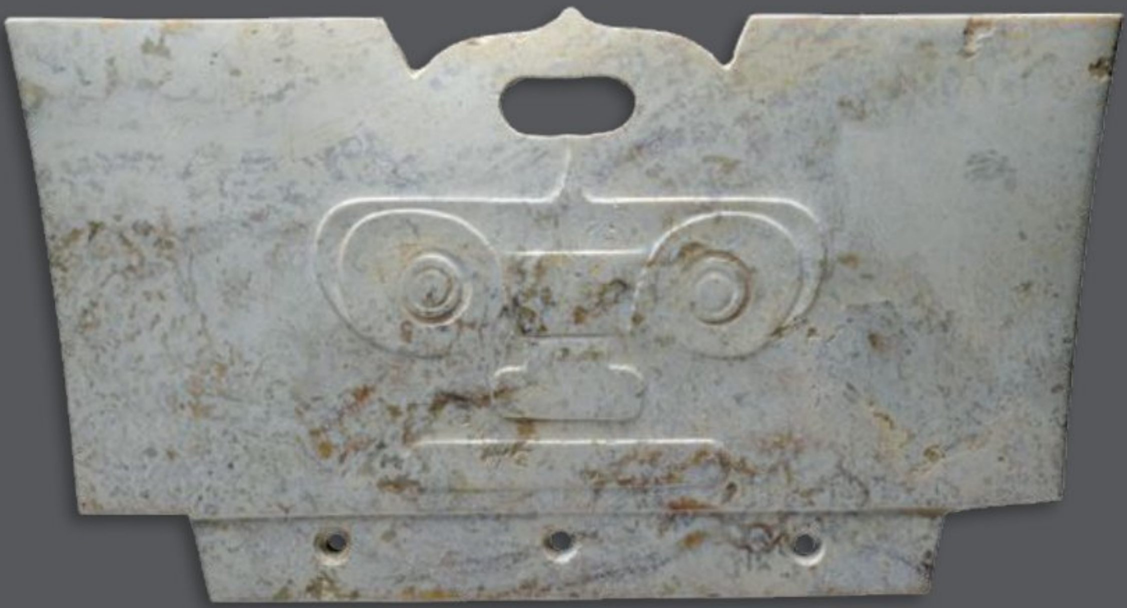
[redacted]

[redacted]



Back of jade no.63 with a groove at the bottom right.

[redacted]



63

Height 5.5 cm - Width 10.5 cm

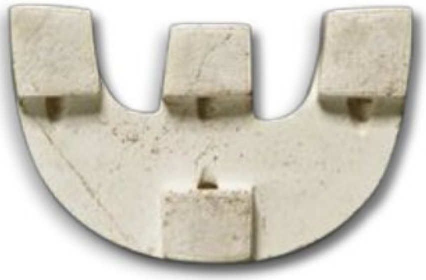
高 5.5 厘米 - 寬 10.5 厘米

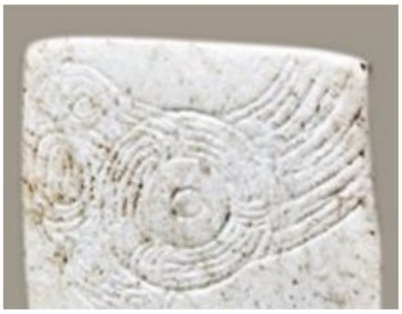
64-65
TWO THREE-PRONGED JADES WITH MASK MOTIF
两三叉形獸面紋玉器

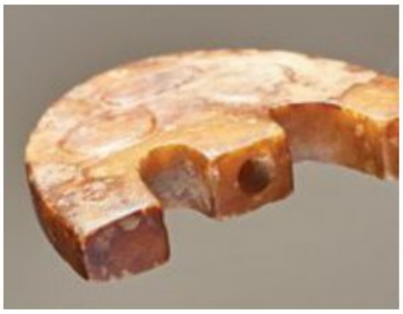
These two small and very sophisticated carvings represent another class of Liangzhu jades found mostly in the graves of the Yaoshan and Fanshan cemeteries (Yuhang, Zhejiang). They have a rounded bottom and three projections carved at the top and the front side is decorated [redacted]

[redacted]

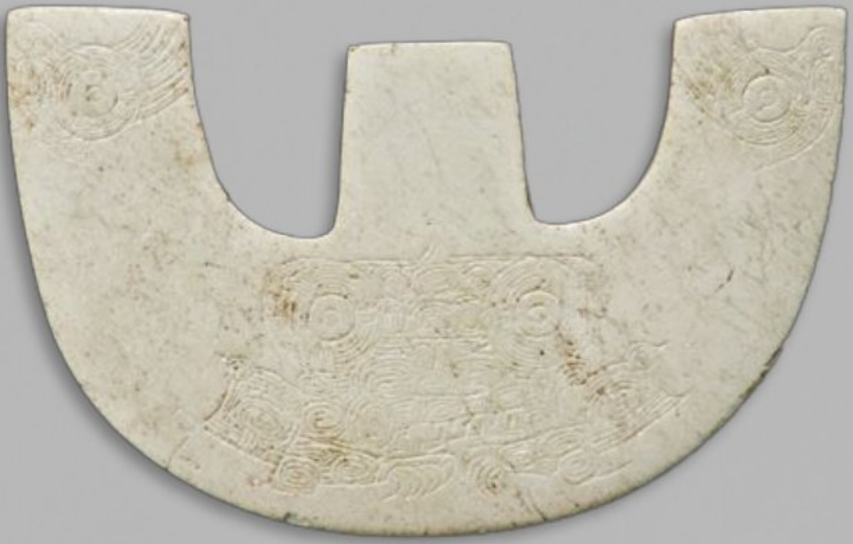
[redacted]


Back view of no.64.


Bird in profile carved on the cubic projections on the back of no.64.

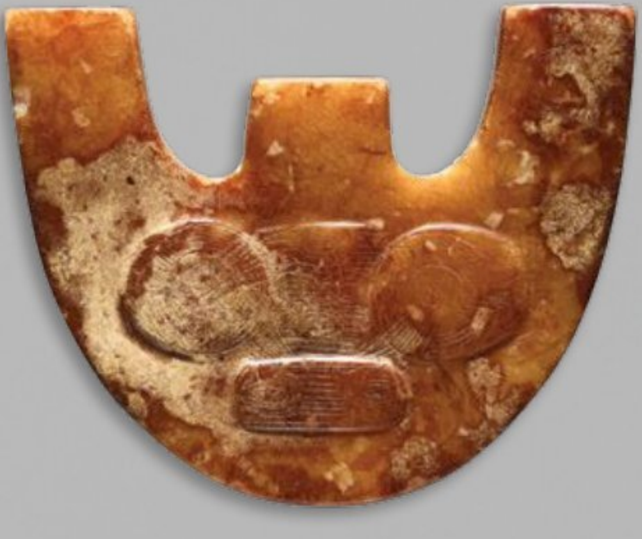

The hole drilled through the central projection of no.65.

[redacted]

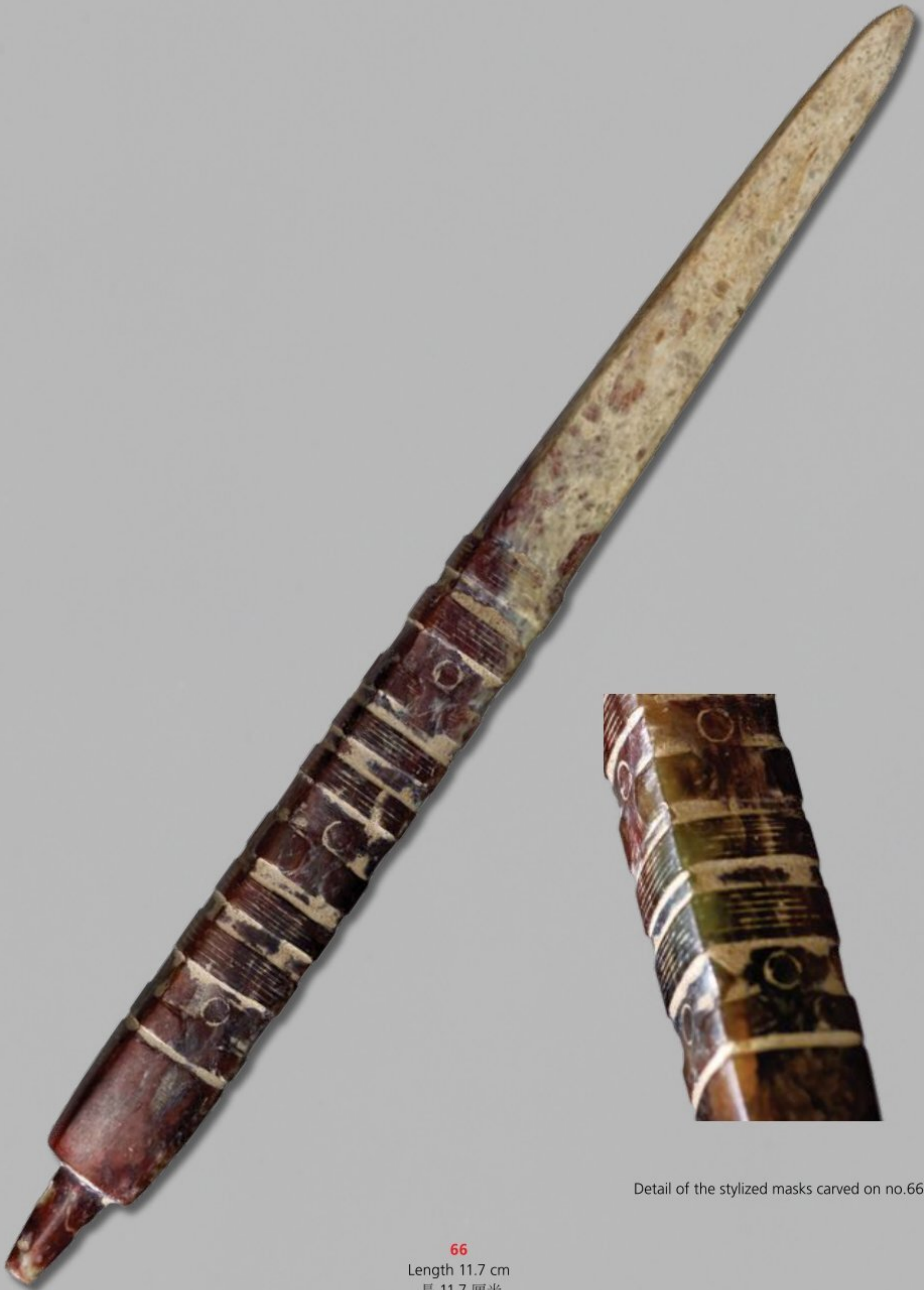


64
Width 5.7 cm
寬 5.7 厘米

Back view of
no.65.



65
Width 5.1 cm
寬 5.1 厘米



66
Length 11.7 cm
長 11.7 厘米

Detail of the stylized masks carved on no.66.

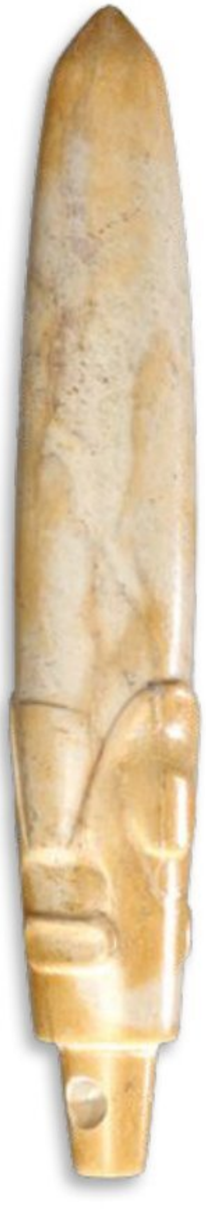
66-67
TWO AWL-SHAPED *ZHUIXING* JADES WITH MASK MOTIF
兩錐形獸面紋玉墜

These jades are called “awl-shaped” by virtue of their elongated shape and pointed tip: the opposite end is pierced with a hole which was either used for suspension or to secure the jade onto [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



67
Length 8.1 cm
長 8.1 厘米

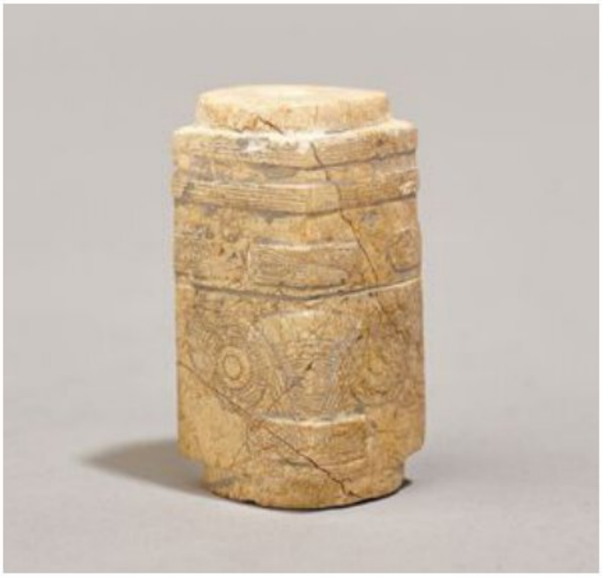
[redacted]

68-69
FOUR *CONG*-SHAPED BEADS WITH MASKS
四獸面紋琮形玉管

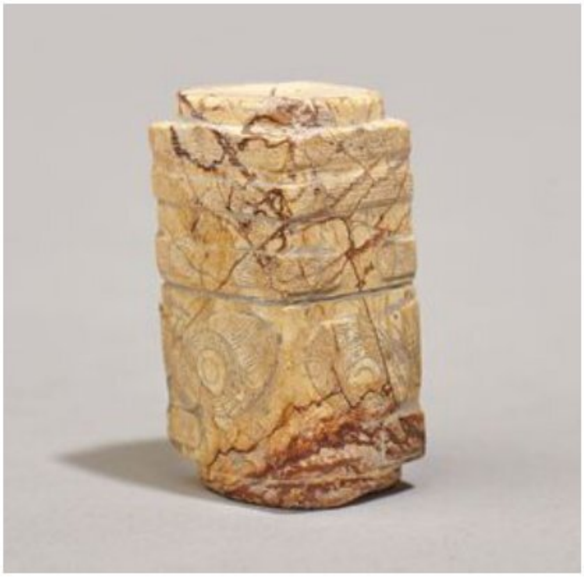
Lianzghu burials have yielded a vast amount of variously shaped beads which were used for ornamental purposes, mostly in the creation of necklaces. The beads are the smallest of all Liangzhu items in jade and were obtained by reworking fragments derived from the carving of larger objects. The majority of Liangzhu beads are cylindrical or spherical and bear no decoration [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

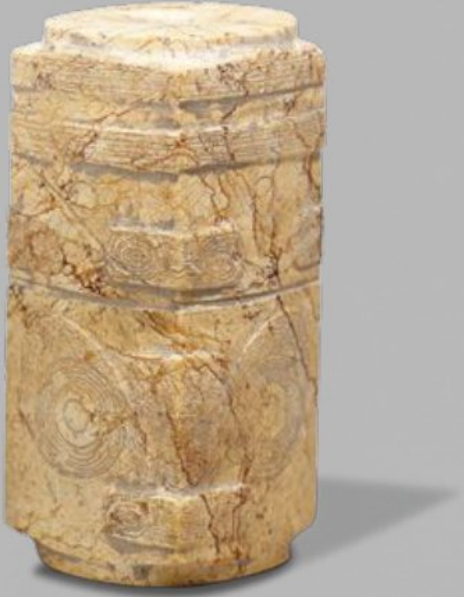


68a

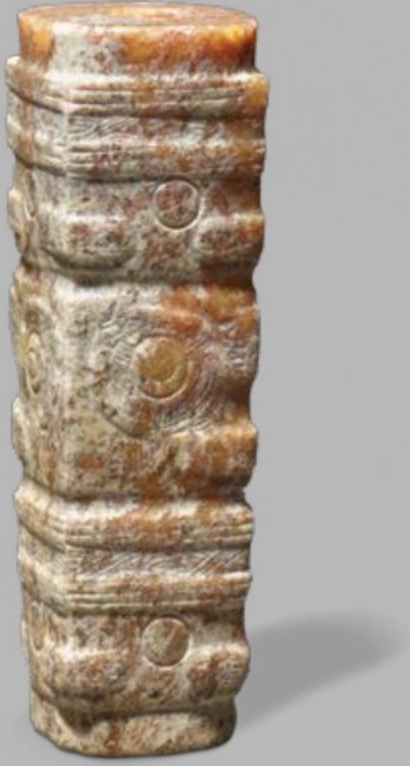


68b

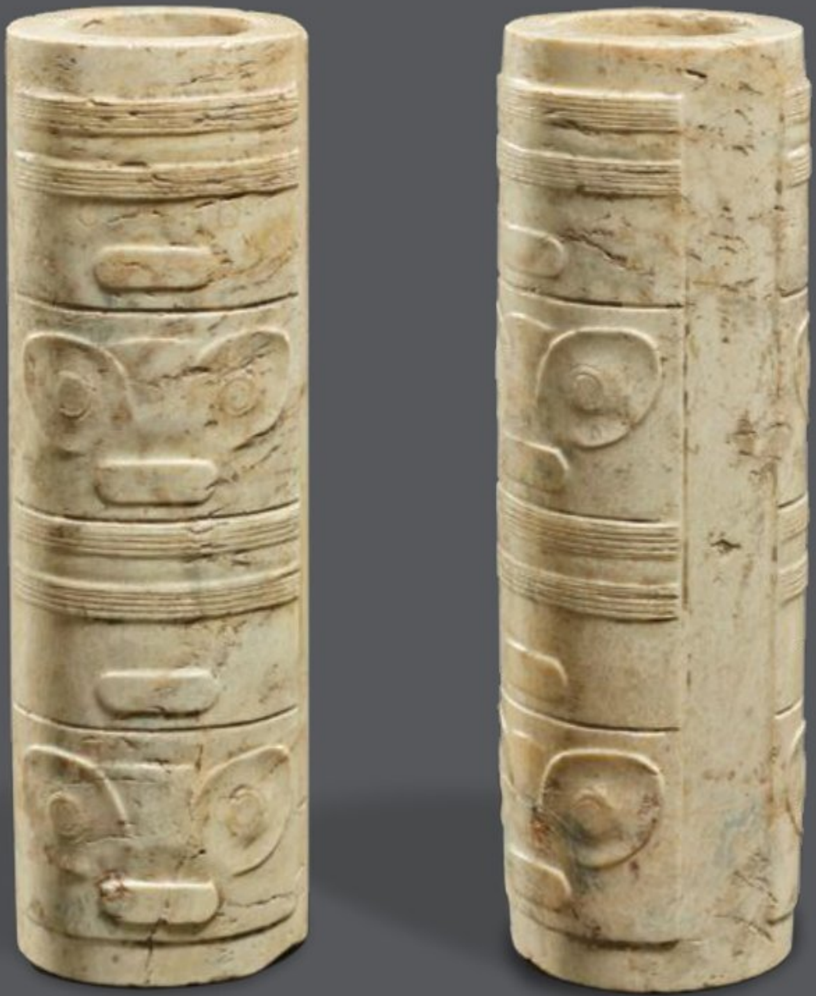
[redacted]



68c
Height 4.9 cm
高 4.9 厘米



69
Height 6 cm
高 6 厘米



70

Height 10.2 cm - Width 3.4 cm

高 10.2 厘米 - 寬 3.4 厘米

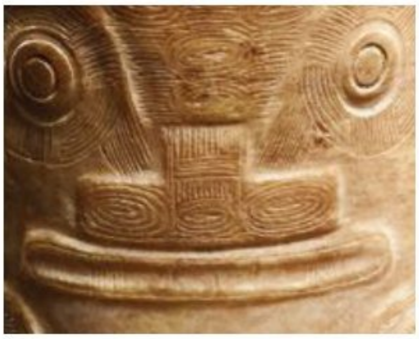
(two views)

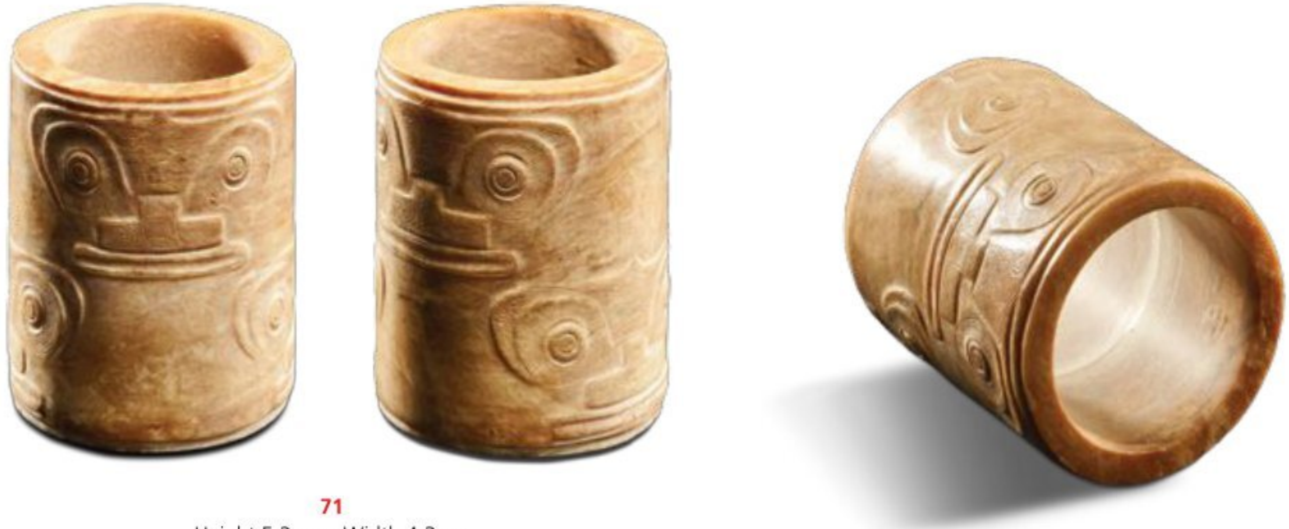
70-71
TWO CYLINDER-SHAPED JADES WITH MASKS
两獸面紋柱形玉器

Tube-like items decorated with mask motifs carved on their surface are rarer than other Liangzhu jades: they have been primarily found in sites located in Yuhang county, near the city of Hangzhou, one of the main centres of activity of the Liangzhu culture. In no.70, the [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]


Detail of the mask carved on no.71.


71
Height 5.3 cm - Width 4.3 cm
高 5.3 厘米 - 寬 4.3 厘米
(three views)

[redacted]

72-73

TWO *ZHUO* BRACELETS WITH MASKS

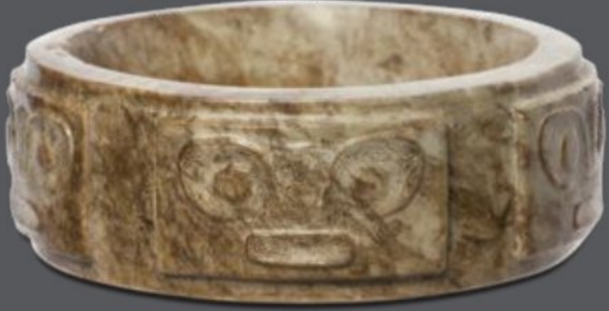
兩獸面紋玉鐲

Bracelets are amongst the most common type of items of personal adornment found in Liangzhu burials. They are usually plain, decorated with simple geometric patterns or, as in these two examples, with masks carved in separate registers. *Cong*-shaped bracelets have been discovered [redacted]

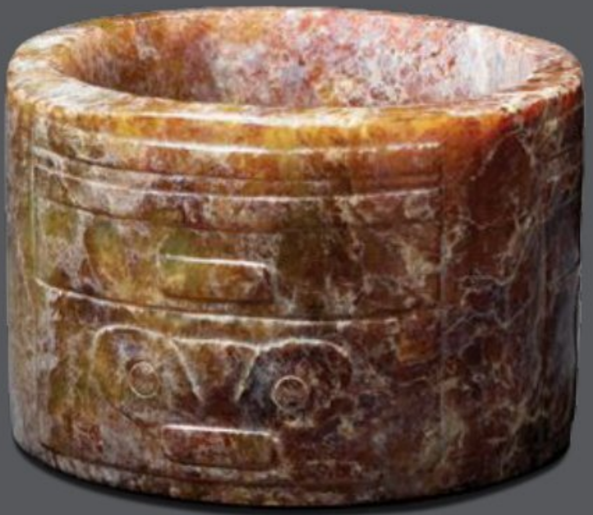
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



72
Height 2.8 cm - Width 8.3 cm
高 2.8 厘米 - 寬 8.3 厘米



73
Height 5.2 cm - Width 7.9 cm
高 5.2 厘米 - 寬 7.9 厘米

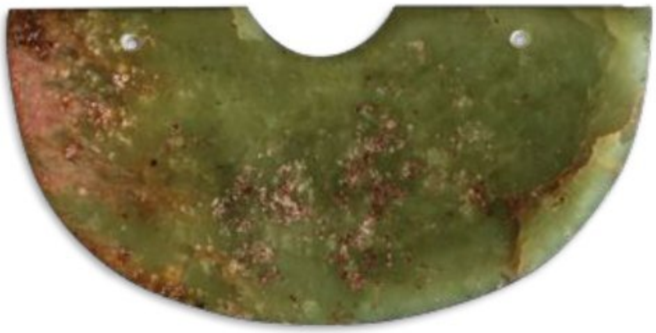
LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

74
HUANG PENDANT WITH MASK
獸面紋玉璜

This perfectly shaped semi-circular ornament, known as a *huang* 璜, is another common type of jade often found in Liangzhu culture sites. *Huang* are amongst the earliest jade ornaments crafted by the Neolithic cultures which [redacted]

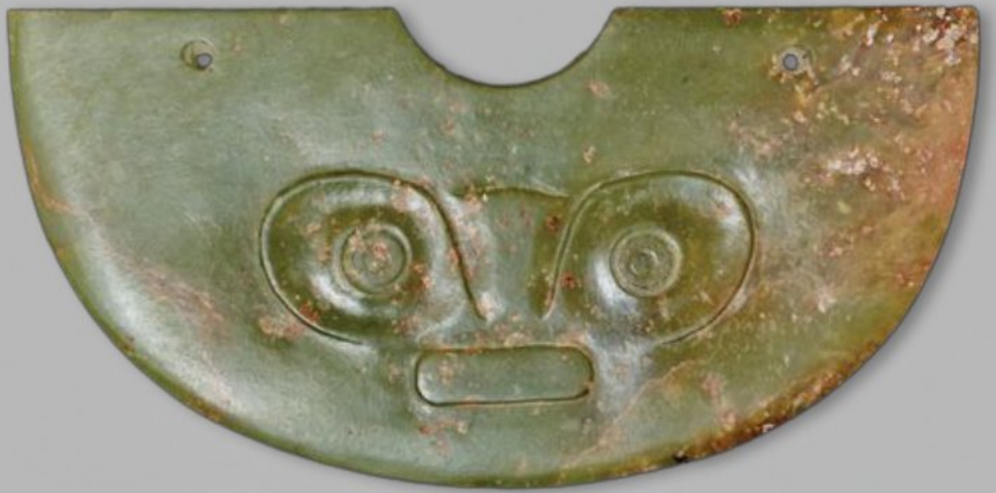
[redacted]

[redacted]



Photograph showing the plain back of no.74.

[redacted]



74
Width 8.7 cm
寬 8.7 厘米

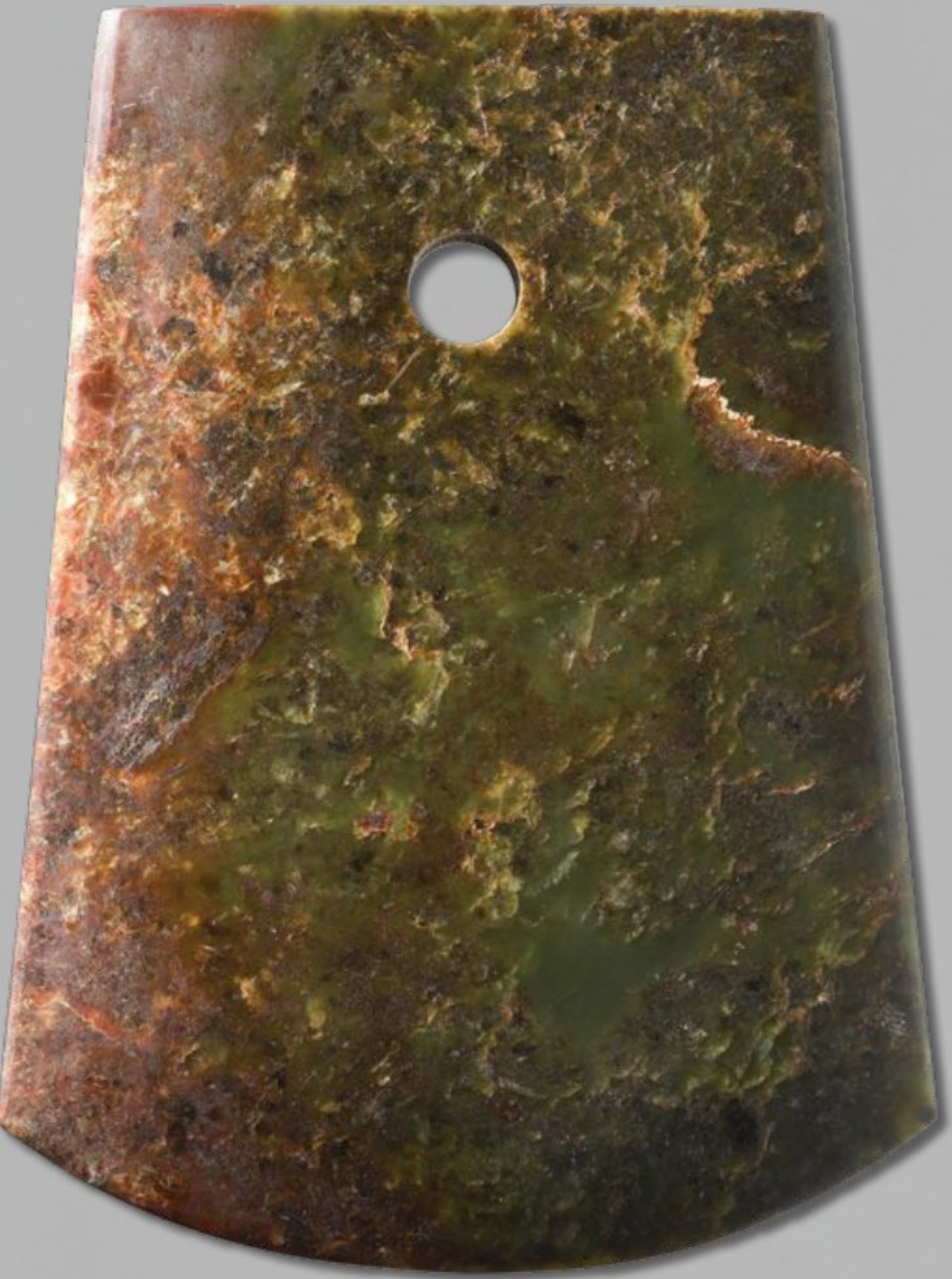
LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

75-80
SIX *YUE* AXES
六玉鉞

Thousands of jade and stone axes have been discovered in Liangzhu elite burials, evidencing the major role that these ceremonial weapons played in this Late Neolithic society. The axes illustrated here have a marked [redacted]

[redacted]

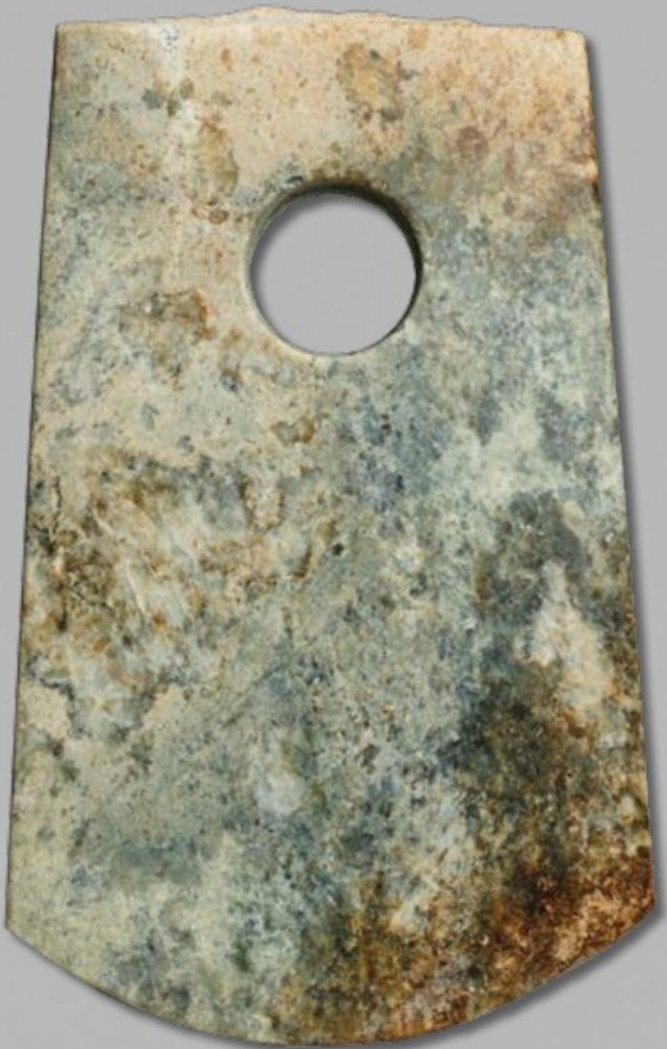
[redacted]

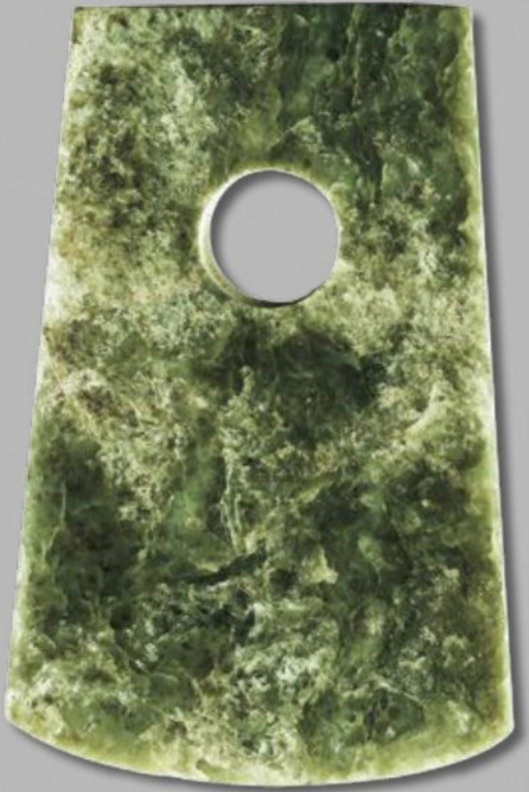


75
Length 18.6 cm
長 18.6 厘米

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

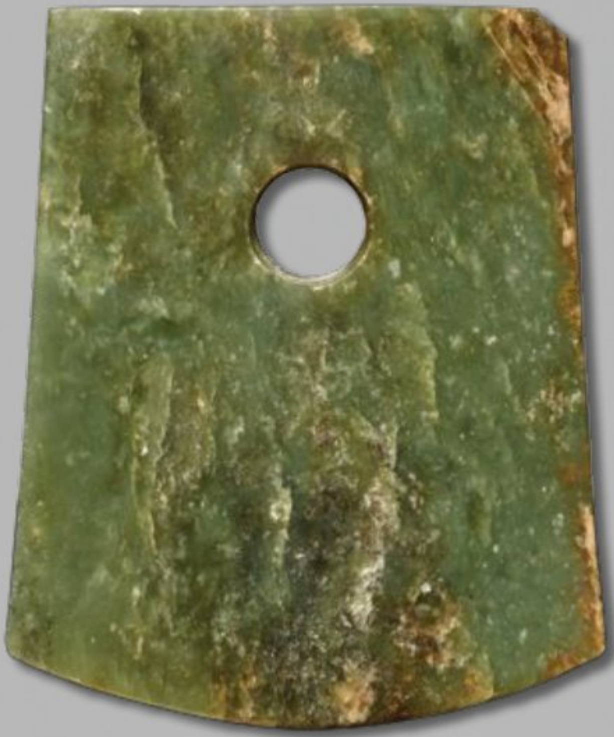
YUE AXES
玉鉞



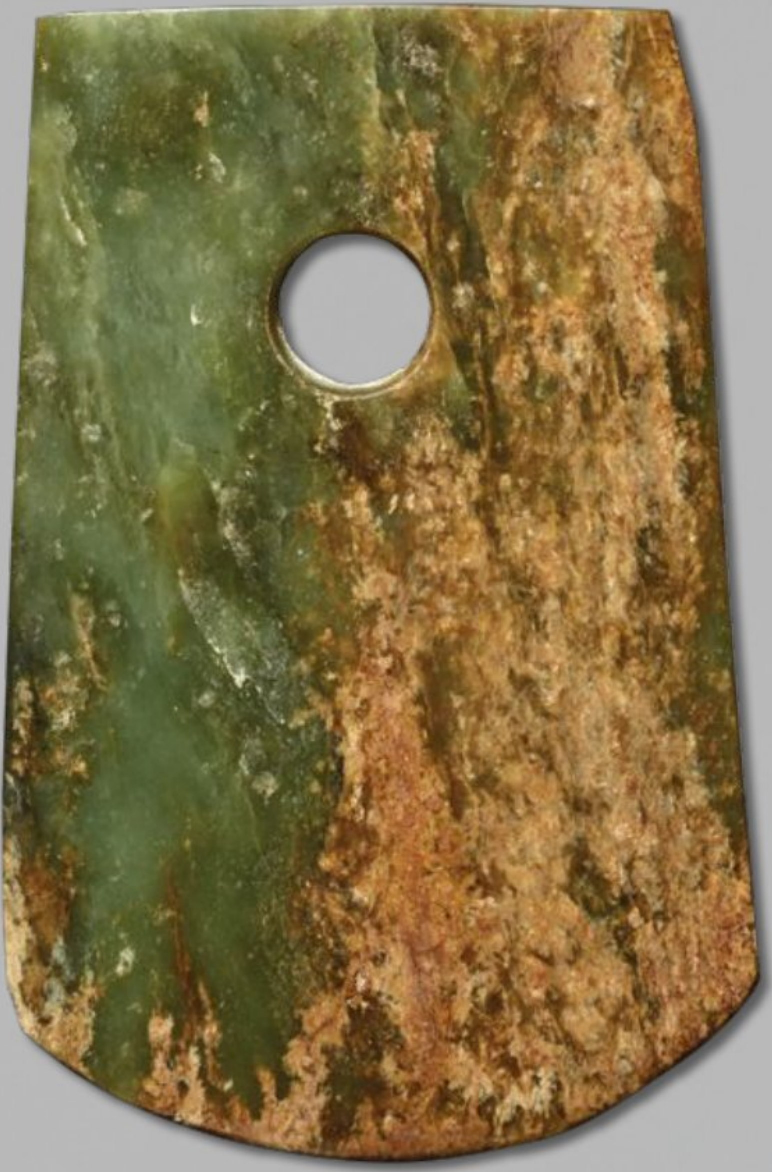


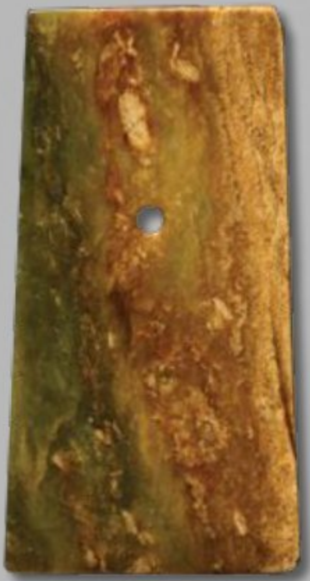
76
Length 17.3 cm
長 17.3 厘米

77
Length 12.4 cm
長 12.4 厘米



78
Length 15.5 cm
長 15.5 厘米





79
Length 8.8 cm
長 8.8 厘米

80
Length 18.3 cm
長 18.3 厘米

LIANGZHU CULTURE C.3300-2200 BC
良渚文化, 公元前 3300-2200

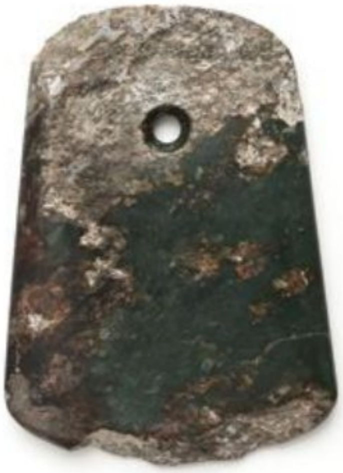
81-82
TWO *YUE* AXES
两玉鉞

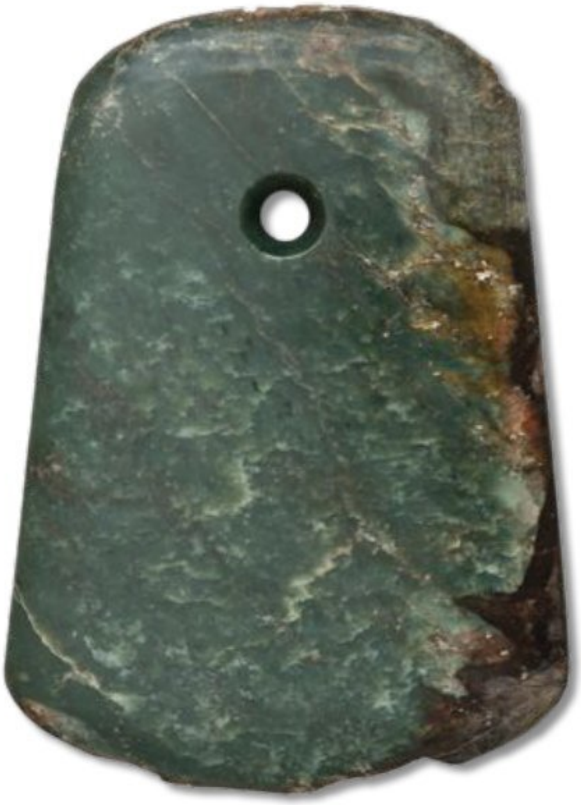
These Two jade *yue* 鉞 axes exhibit features that are usually seen on stone axes of similar shape which, generally speaking, have a more rounded profile and a less sharpened cutting edge [redacted]

[redacted]

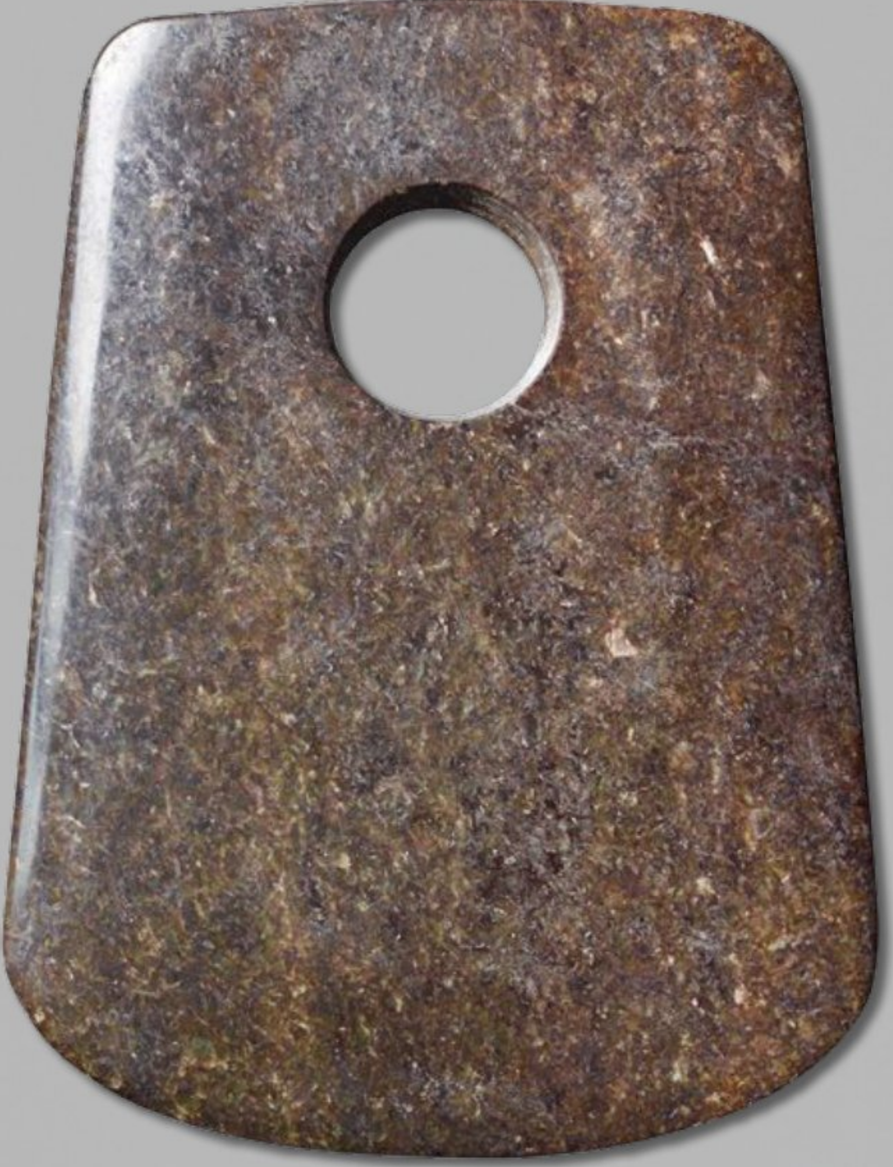
[redacted]

[redacted]


The corroded surface on the back of axe no.81.

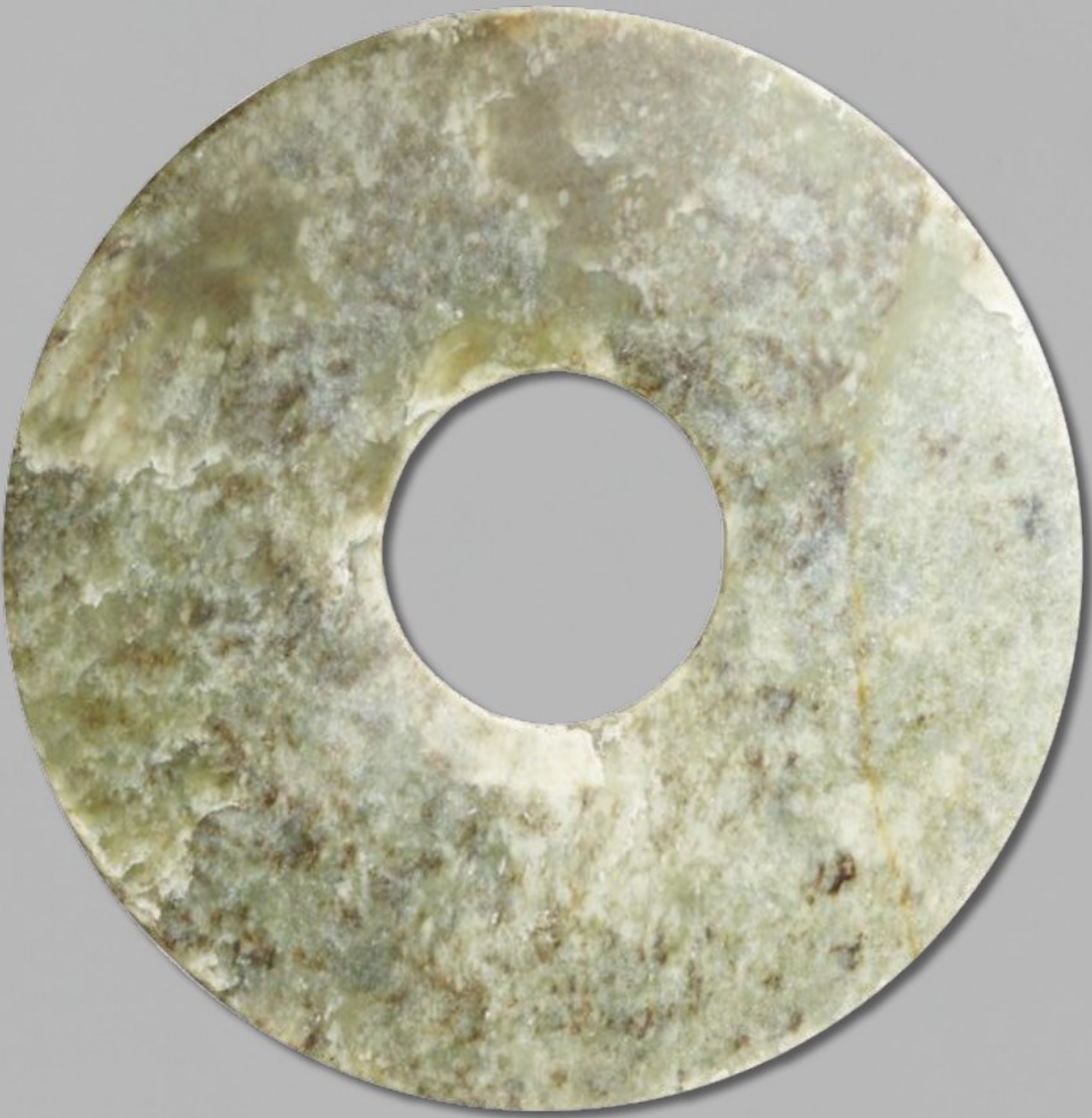

81
Length 19.5 cm
長 19.5 厘米

[redacted]



82
Length 23.4 cm
長 23.4 厘米

LATE LONGSHAN CULTURE, C.2300-1900 BC
龍山文化晚期, 公元前 2300-1900



83

***BI* DISC**

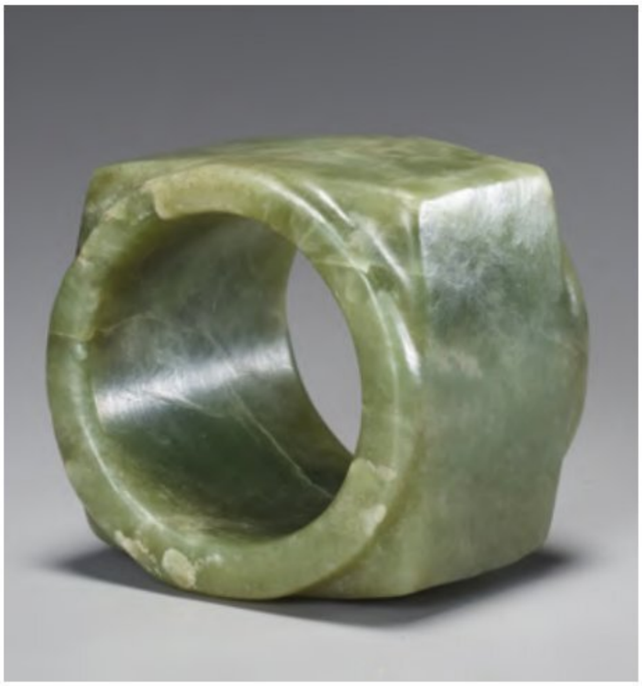
玉璧

LONGSHAN CULTURE, TAOSI PHASE C. 2300-1900 BC

龍山文化 陶寺时期, 公元前 2300-1900

Diameter 14.8 cm

直徑 14.8 厘米



84

CONG

玉琮

LATE LONGSHAN CULTURE, C.2300-1900 BC

龍山文化晚期, 公元前 2300-1900

Height 6 cm

高 6 厘米

THE LATE NEOLITHIC: JADES OF THE DAWENKOU AND LONGSHAN CULTURES

This short section presents a group of jades that can be attributed to the late Neolithic Dawenkou (c.4500-2500 BC) and Longshan (c.2600-1900 BC) cultures, which developed in the Shandong [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

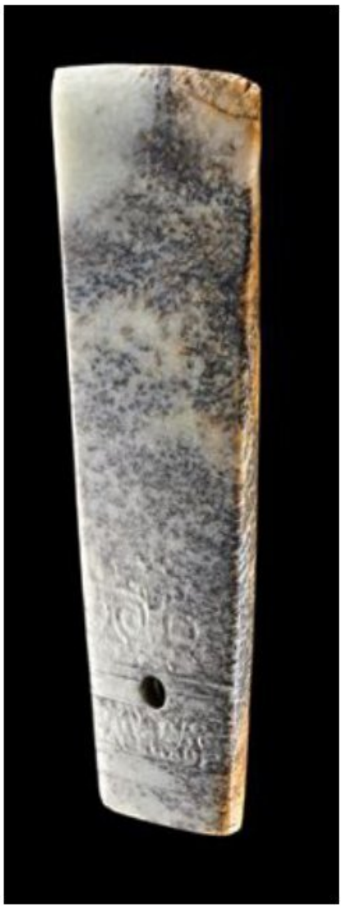


Fig.10
Length 22.2 cm
長 22.2 厘米
Ceremonial blade decorated
with two different masks.
Longshan culture, C.2200-2000 BC.
Dahuang collection

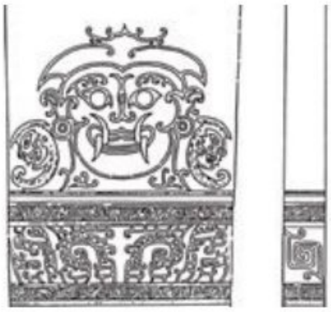


Fig.11a

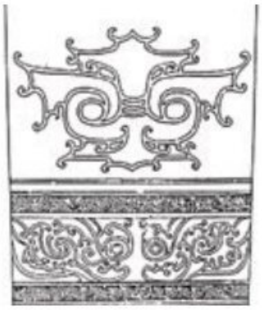


Fig.12a

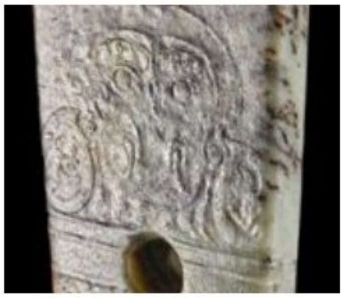


Fig.11
Detail of the first mask carved in low relief on the ceremonial blade.

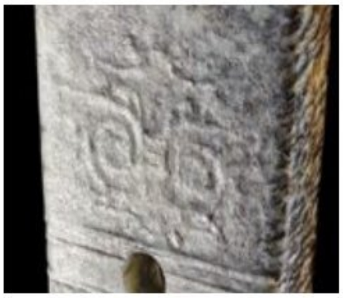
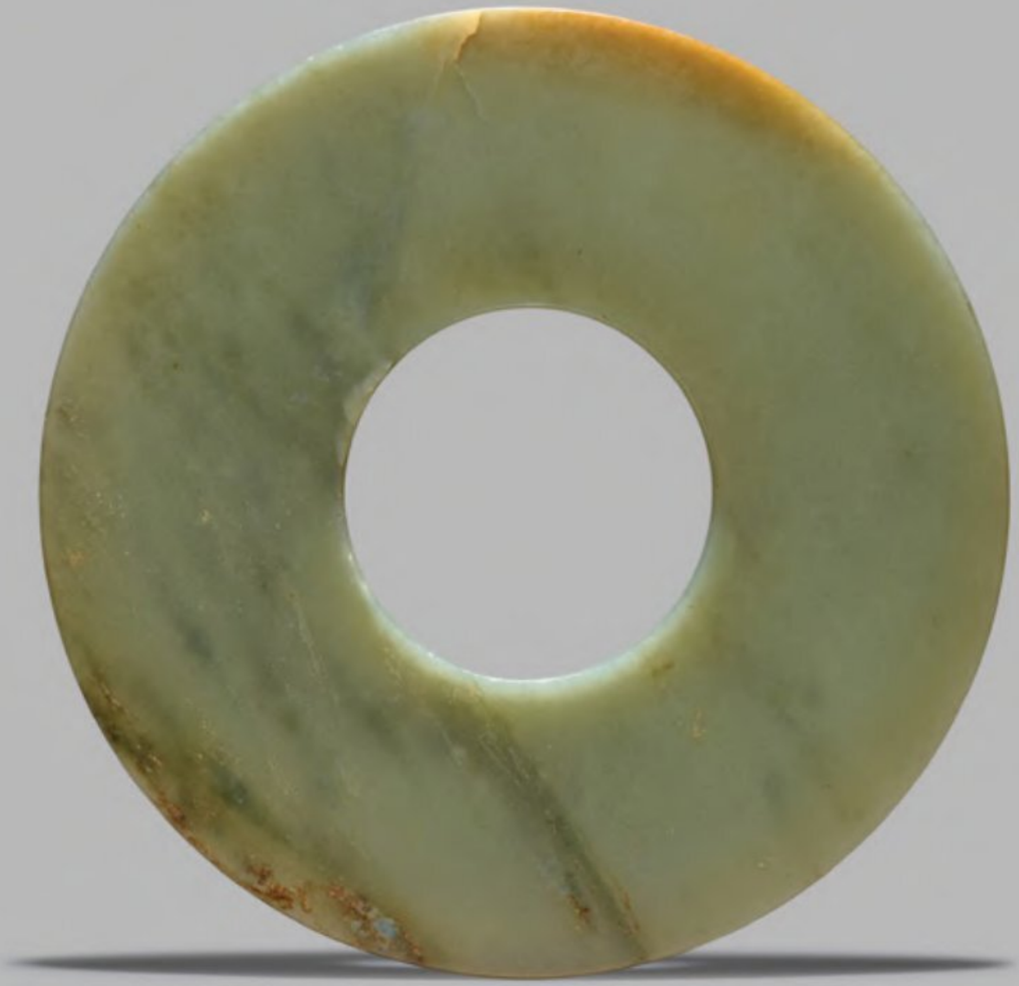


Fig.12
Detail of the second mask carved in low relief on the ceremonial blade.



85
***BI* DISC**
玉璧
LONGSHAN CULTURE C. 2600-1900 BC
龍山文化 公元前 2600-1900
Diameter 16.1 cm, thickness inside 4 mm, outside 2 mm
直徑 16.1 厘米 - 厚 0.2-0.4 厘米

DAWENKOU AND LONGSHAN CULTURES, C.3000-2000 BC
大汶口文化, 龍山文化, 公元前 3000-2000

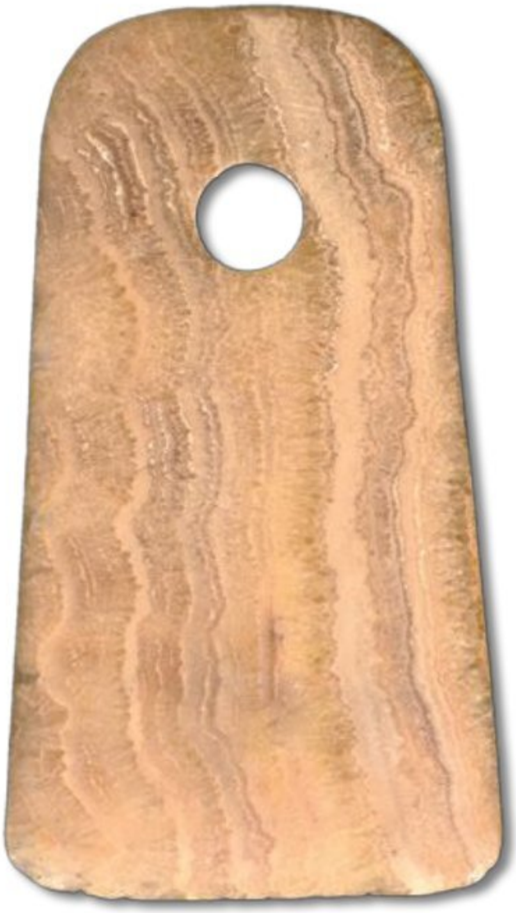
86-87
DAWENKOU AXE-SHAPED PENDANT AND *YUE* AXE
大汶口文化鉞形玉佩

88-89
TWO LONGSHAN *FU* AXES
兩龍山文化玉斧

Early societies that made use of jade during the late Neolithic period and the transition to the Bronze Age include the Dawenkou culture (c.4500-2500 BC), with sites mostly distributed in Shandong [redacted]

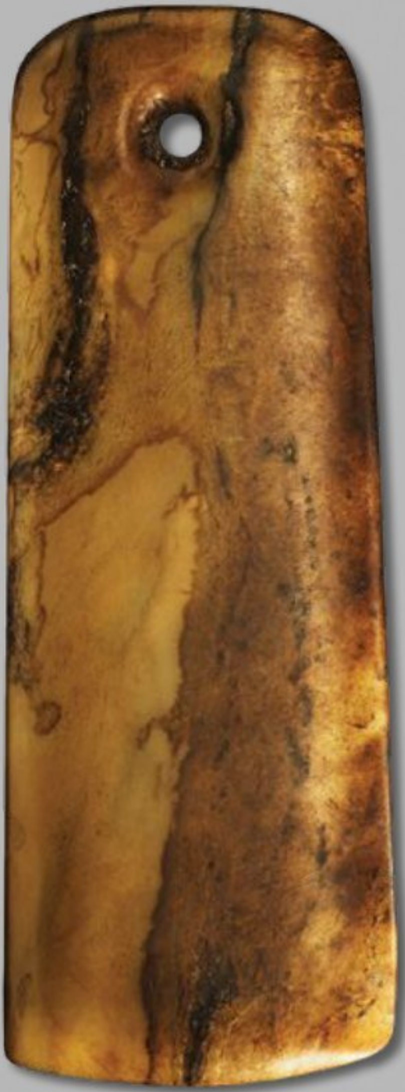
[redacted]

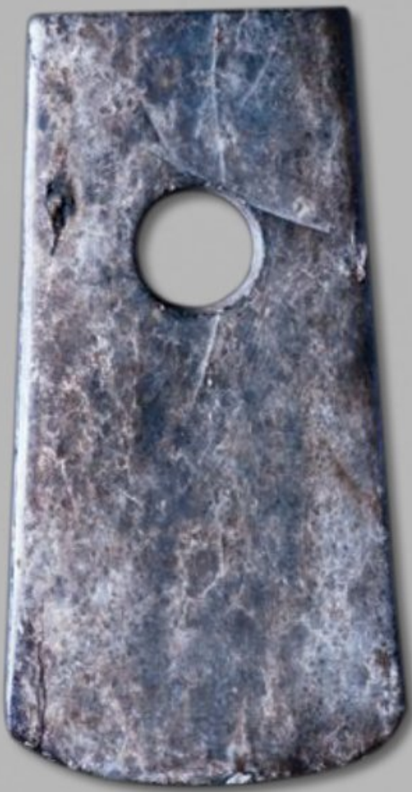
[redacted]



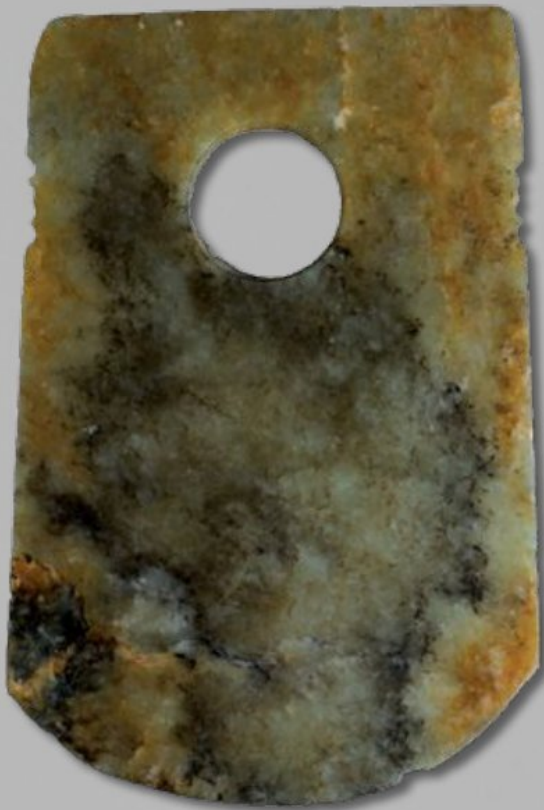
86
Length 6.8 cm
長 6.8 厘米

[redacted] [redacted].





88
Length 14.8 cm
長 14.8 厘米



87
Length 16.7 cm
長 16.7 厘米

89
Length 14.3 cm
長 14.3 厘米

DAWENKOU AND LONGSHAN CULTURES, C.3000-2000 BC
大汶口文化, 龍山文化, 公元前 3000-2000

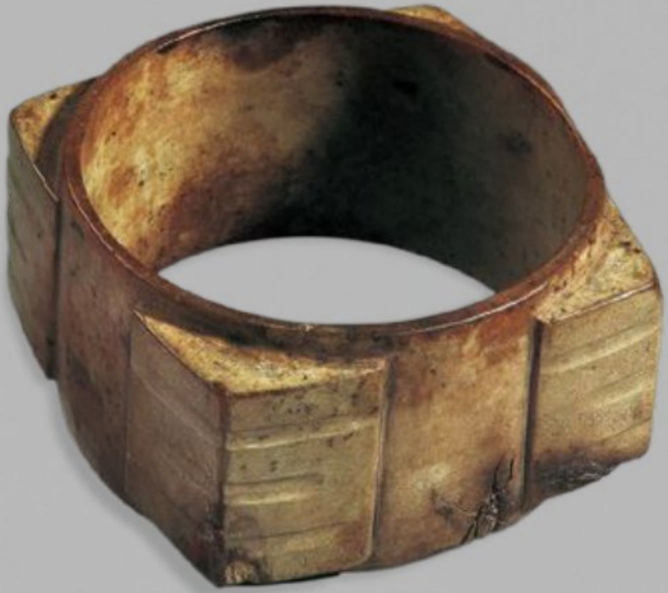
90-93
CONG AND THREE SMALL *BI* DISCS
玉琮三小玉璧

Although the Liangzhu culture disappeared almost abruptly around 2000 BC, the *cong* 琮, its most peculiar type of jade, continued to be carved by the late Neolithic cultures of Longshan (c.2600-1900 BC), in central China, and Qijia, [redacted]

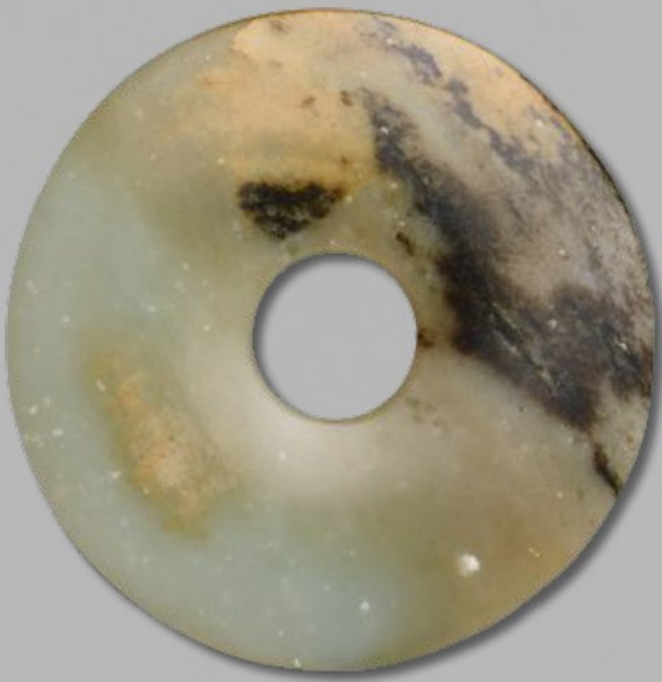
[redacted]

[redacted]

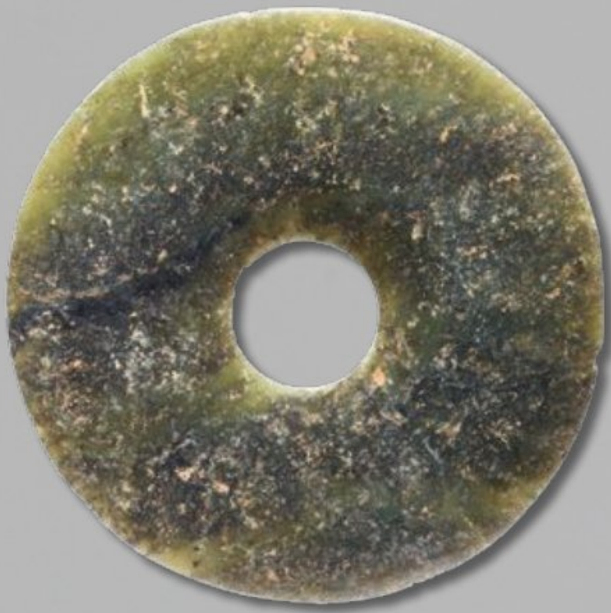
[redacted]



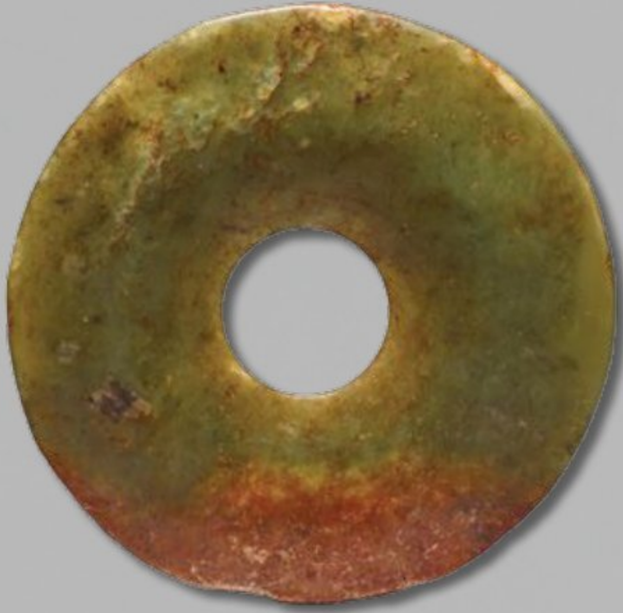
90
Height 5.3 cm - Width 9.5 cm
高 5.3 厘米 - 寬 9.5 厘米



91
Diameter 9.7 cm
直徑 9.7 厘米



92
Diameter 9.6 cm
直徑 9.6 厘米



93
Diameter 7.8 cm
直徑 7.8 厘米

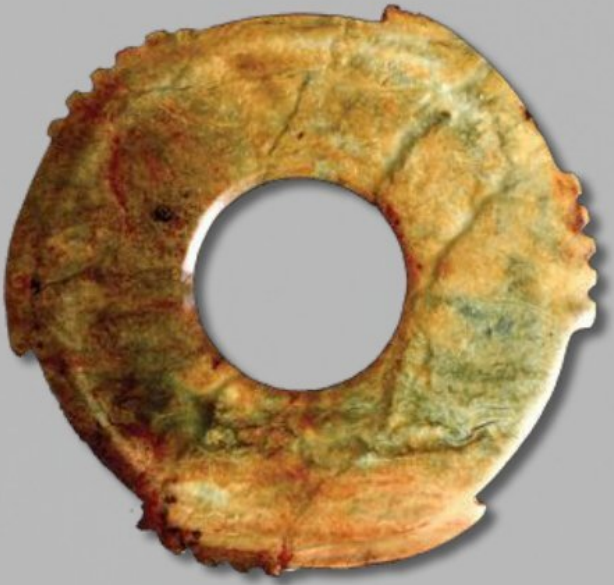
DAWENKOU AND LONGSHAN CULTURES, C.3000-2000 BC
大汶口文化, 龍山文化, 公元前 3000-2000

94-96
THREE NOTCHED DISCS, *YABI*
三玉牙璧

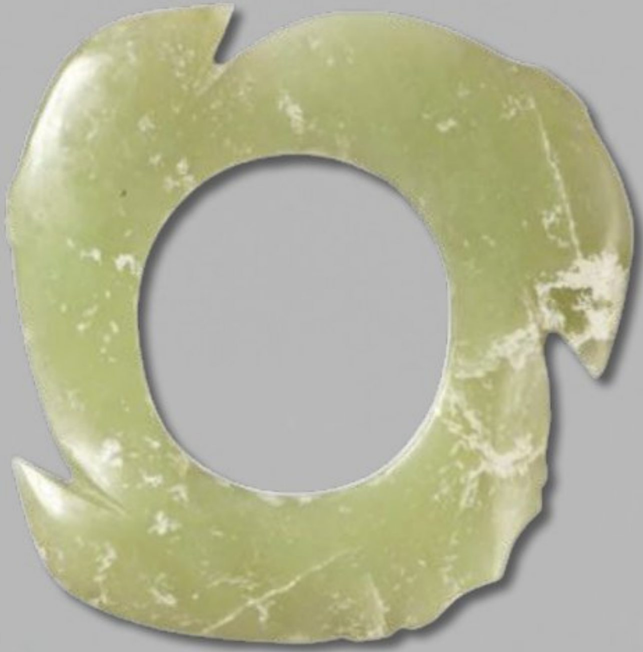
Notched discs (called *yabi* 牙璧 in Chinese or 'toothed discs'), form a particular category of jades which were crafted in the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age periods: they have been found distributed over a fairly large area which stretches [redacted]

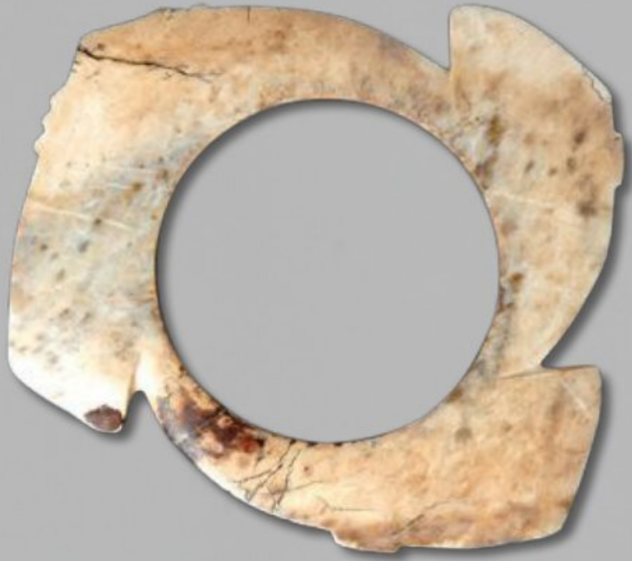
[redacted]

[redacted]



94
Width 11.1 cm
寬 11.1 厘米





96
Width 11 cm
寬 11 厘米

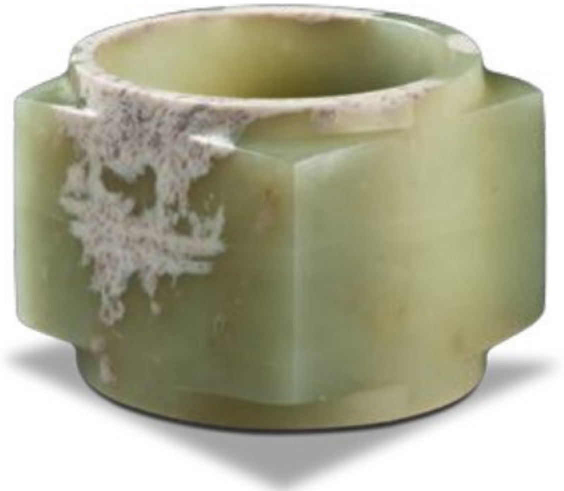
95
Width 9.7 cm
寬 9.7 厘米

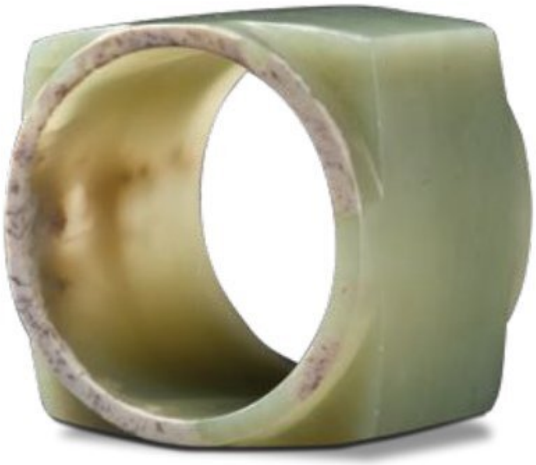
JADES OF THE EARLY BRONZE AGE: THE QIJIA AND ERLITOU CULTURES

Although the origins of metallurgy in China are still being investigated and debated, the round date of 2000 BC is conventionally accepted as marking the beginning of the Bronze Age. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





97

CONG

玉琮

QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC

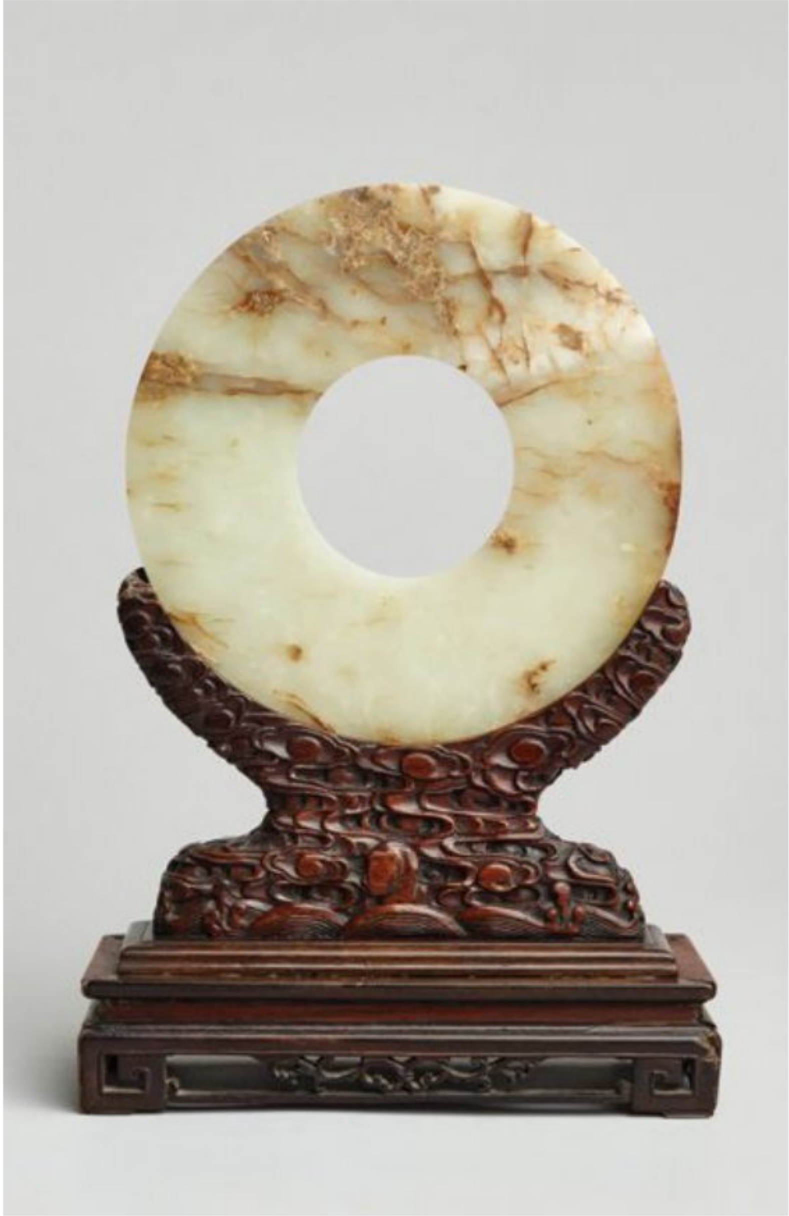
齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

Height 4.7 cm - Width 6.1 cm

高 4.7 厘米 - 寬 6.1 厘米

[redacted]

[redacted]



98

***BI* DISC**

玉璧

QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC

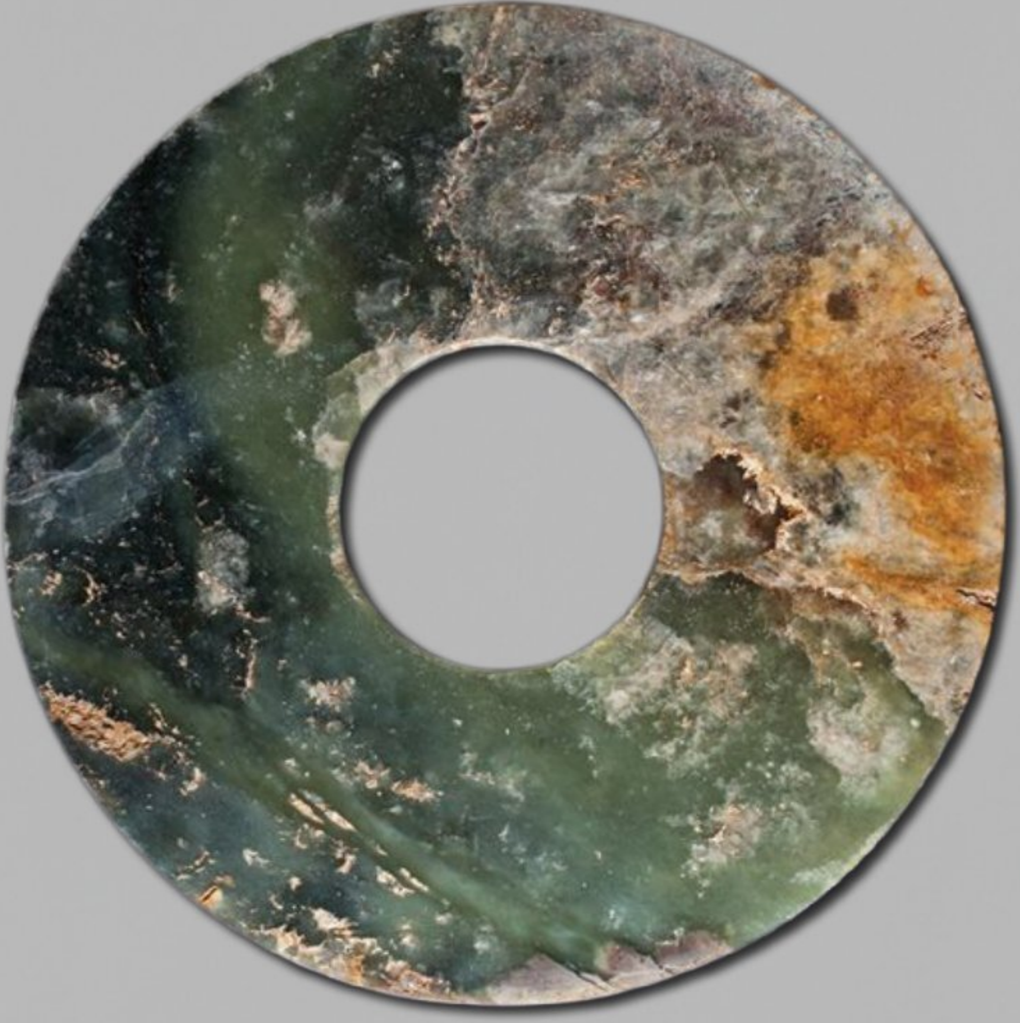
齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

Diameter 17.3 cm

直徑 17.3 厘米

[redacted]

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600



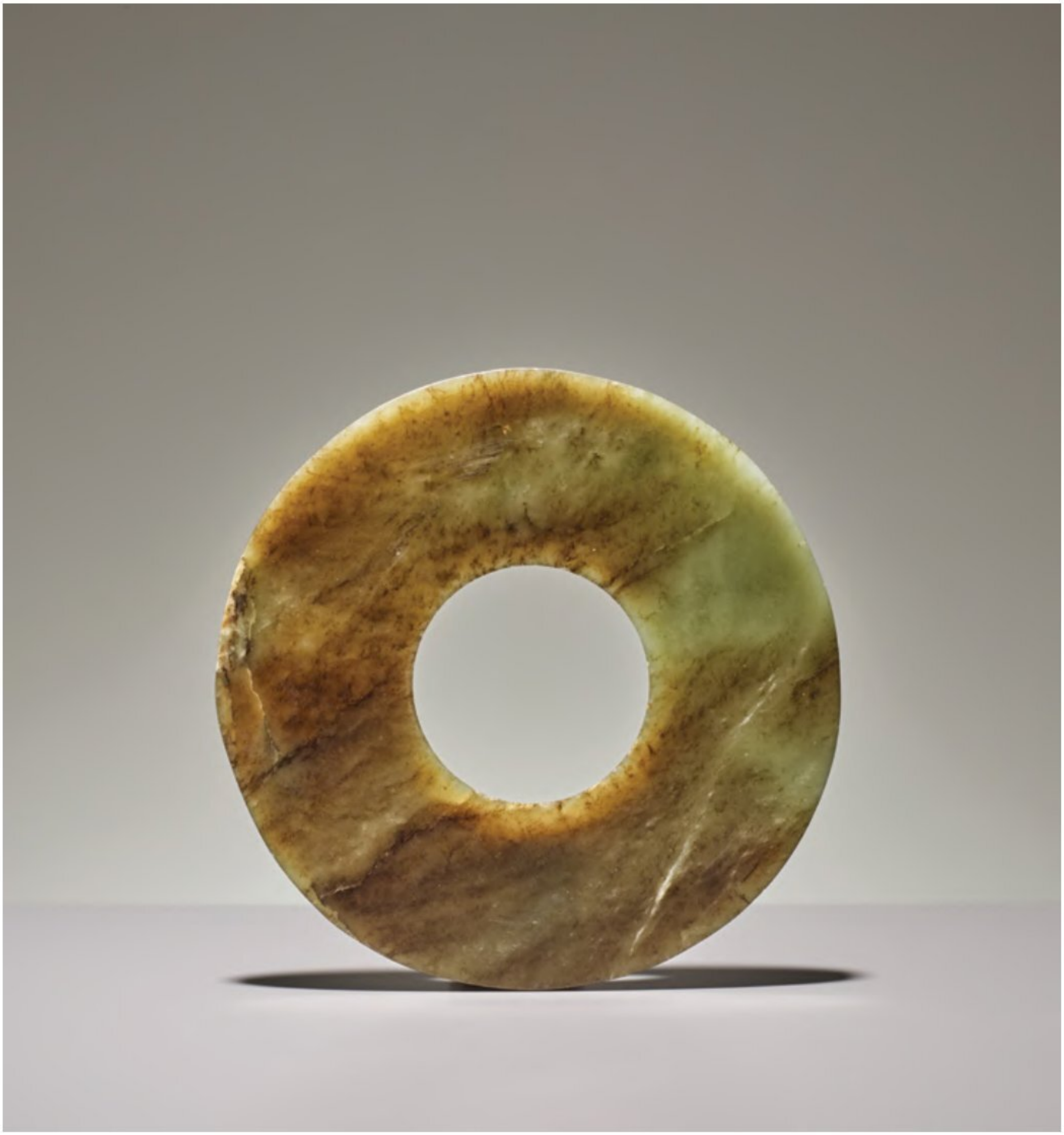
99

***BI* DISC**

玉璧

Diameter 19.7 cm

直徑 19.7 厘米



100

***BI* DISC**

玉璧

Diameter 11.2 cm

直徑 11.2 厘米

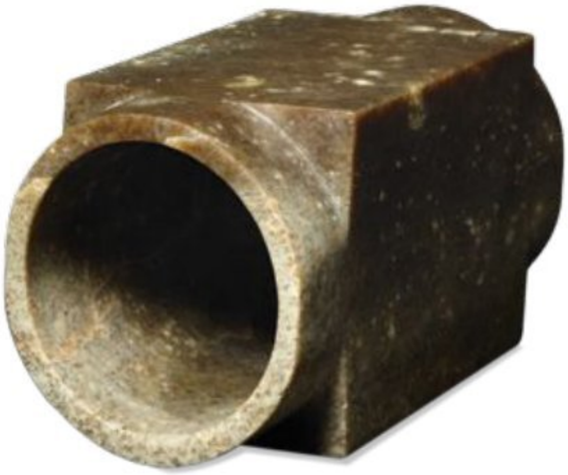
EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

101-106
SIX *CONG*
六玉琮

The *cong* 琮 tubes carved during the late Neolithic period by cultures located in central and north-western China are plain and unadorned, with no traces of the masks so [redacted]

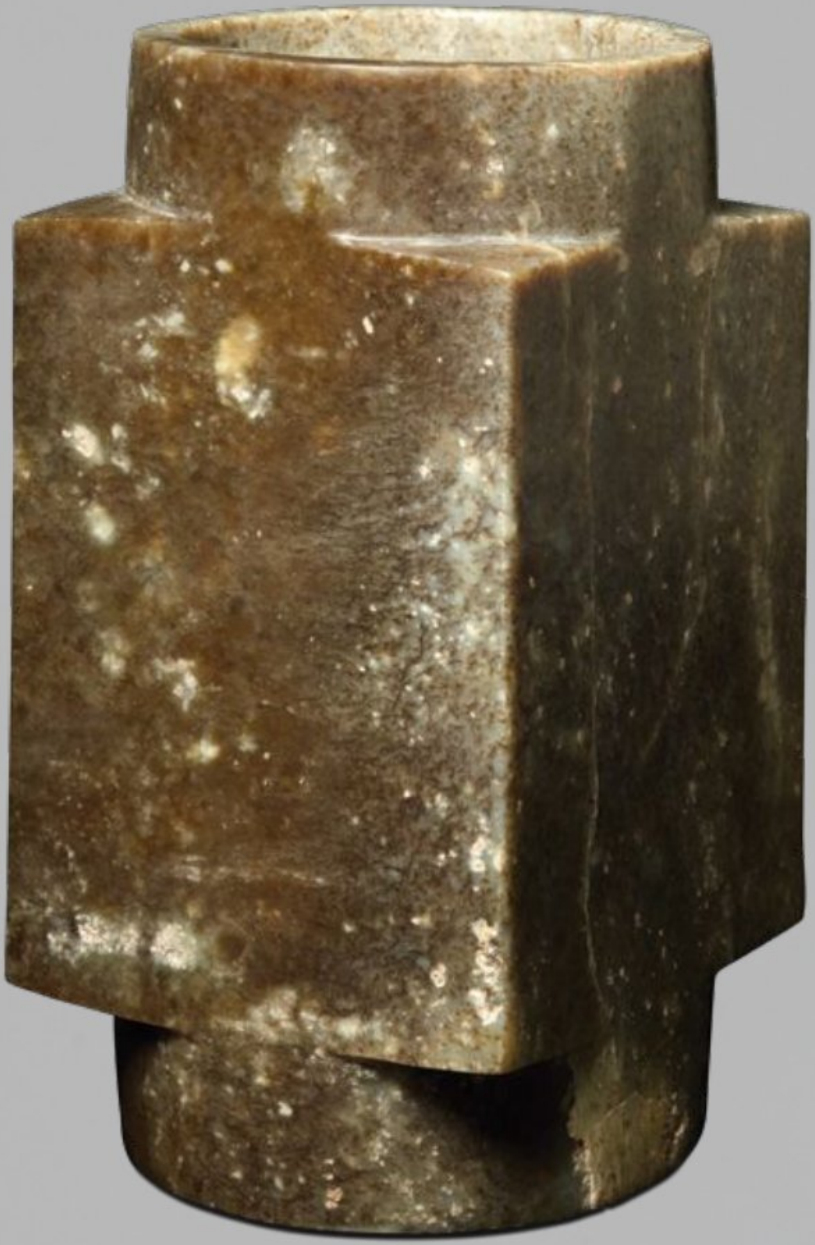
[redacted]

[redacted]



The large collar and perforation of *cong* no.101.

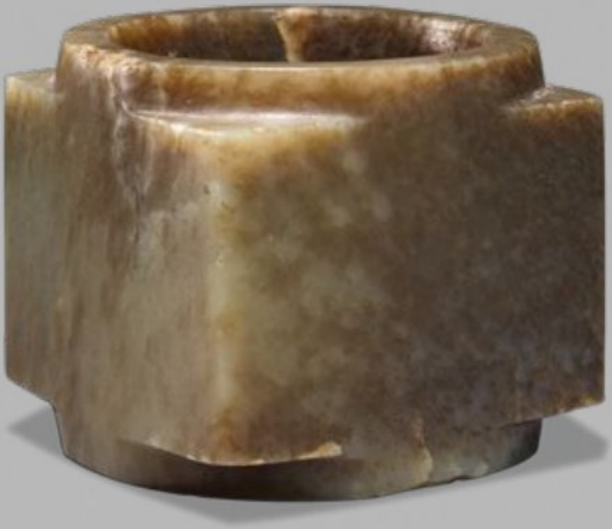
[redacted]



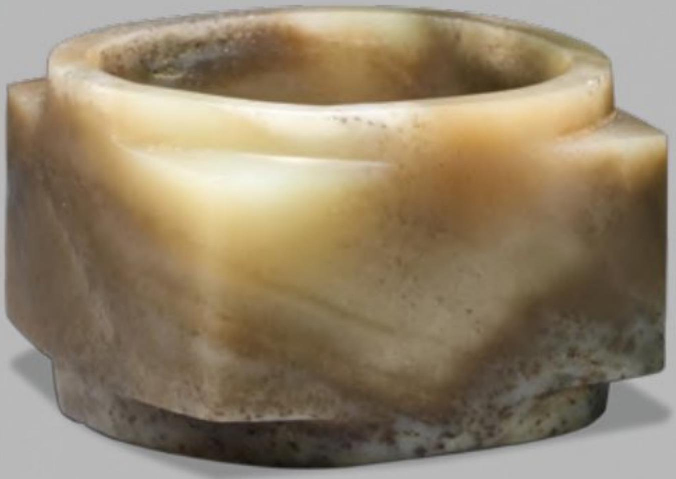
101
Height 23.8 cm
高 23.8 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

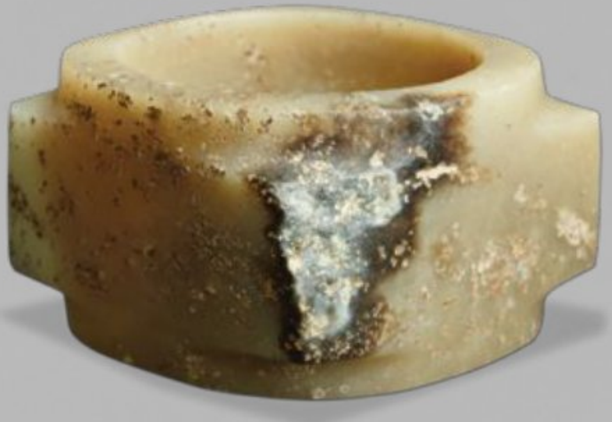
CONG
玉琮



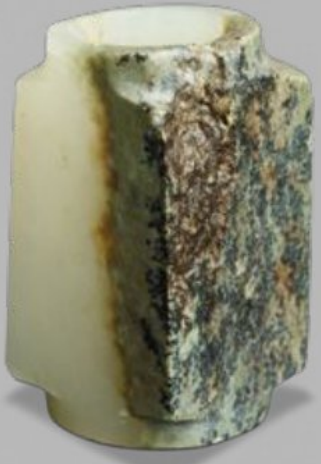
102
Height 6.5 cm
高 6.5 厘米



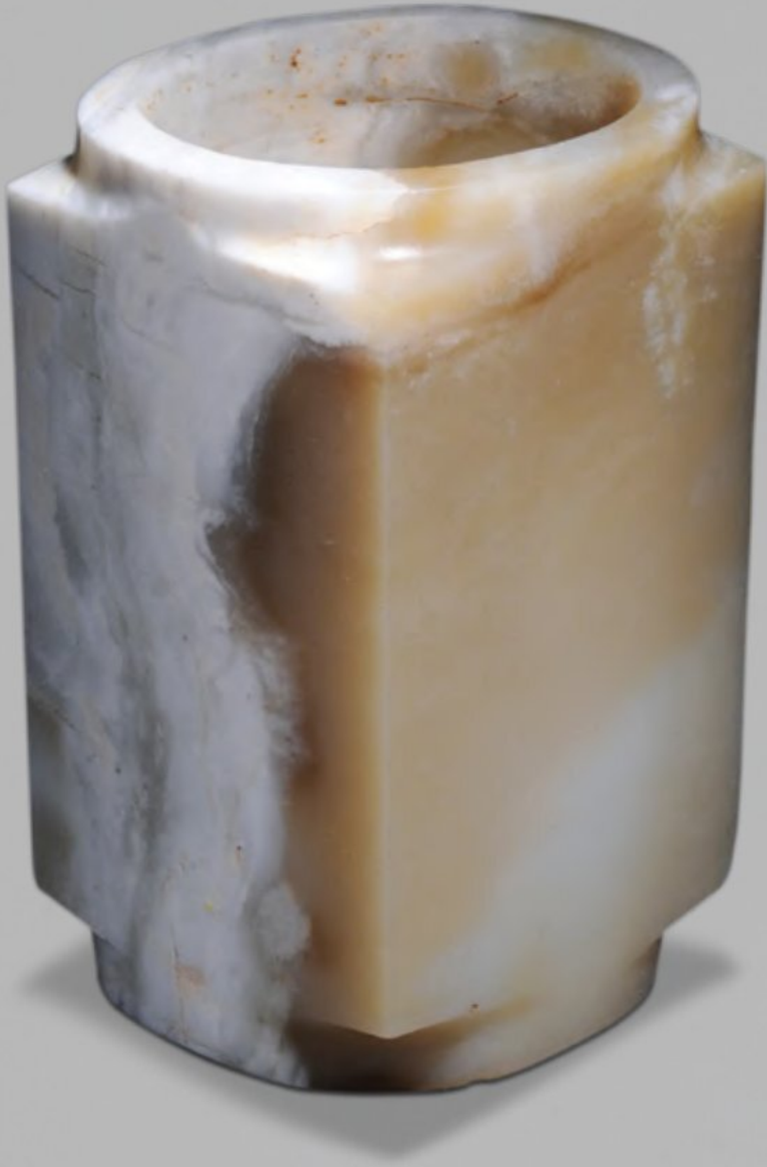
103
Height 5 cm
高 5 厘米



105
Height 3 cm
高 3 厘米



106
Height 3.9 cm
高 3.9 厘米



104
Height 12.7 cm
高 12.7 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 公元前 2200-1600

107-114
EIGHT *BI* DISCS
八玉璧

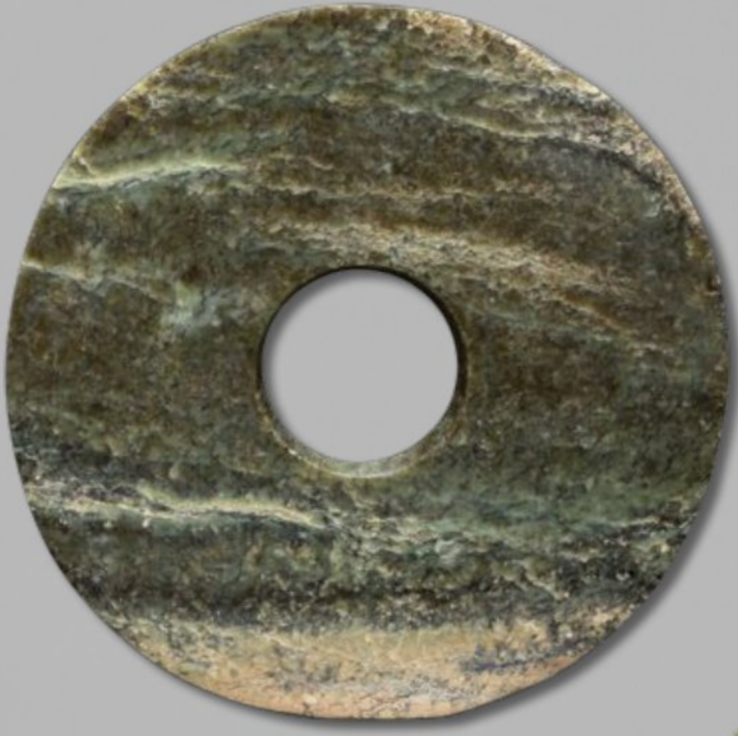
Bi 璧 discs are another type of jades which continued to be crafted in numbers by cultures located in central and north-west China during the transitional period between the Neolithic and the Bronze Age. The majority of these discs range in size between [redacted]

[redacted]

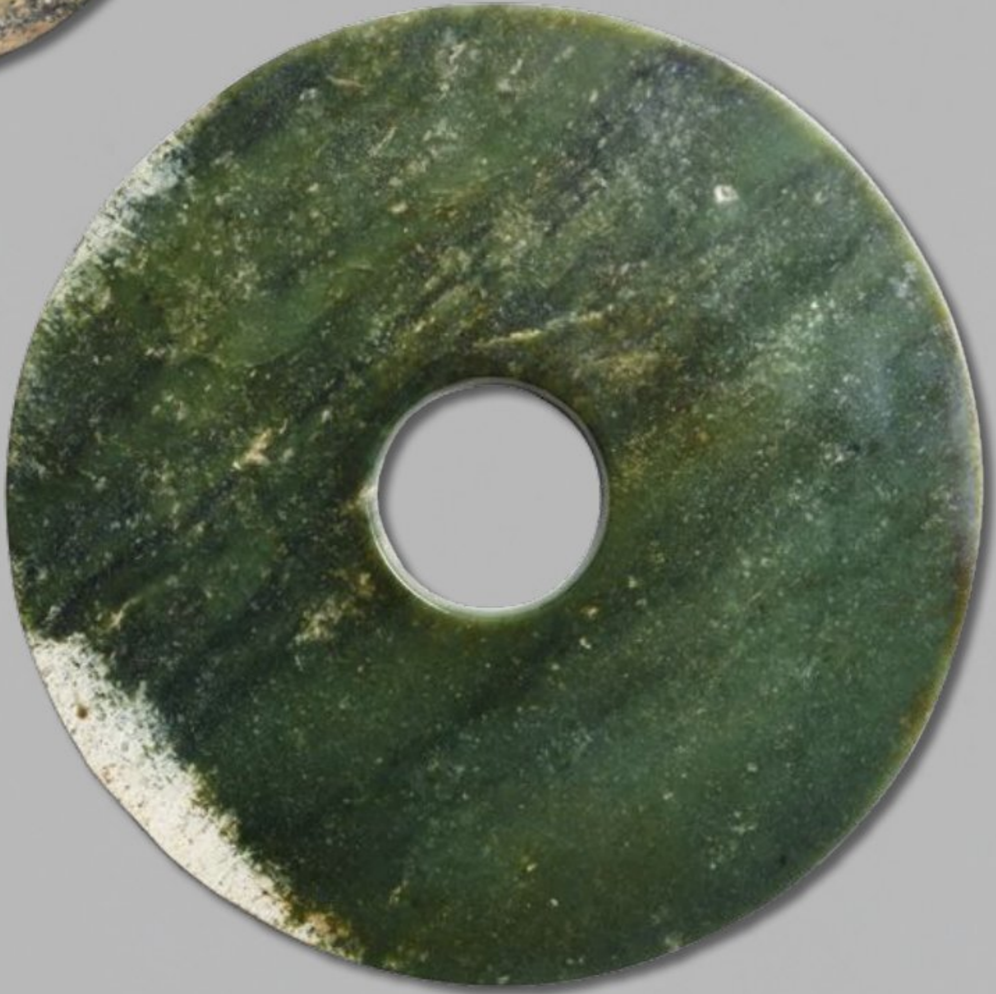
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



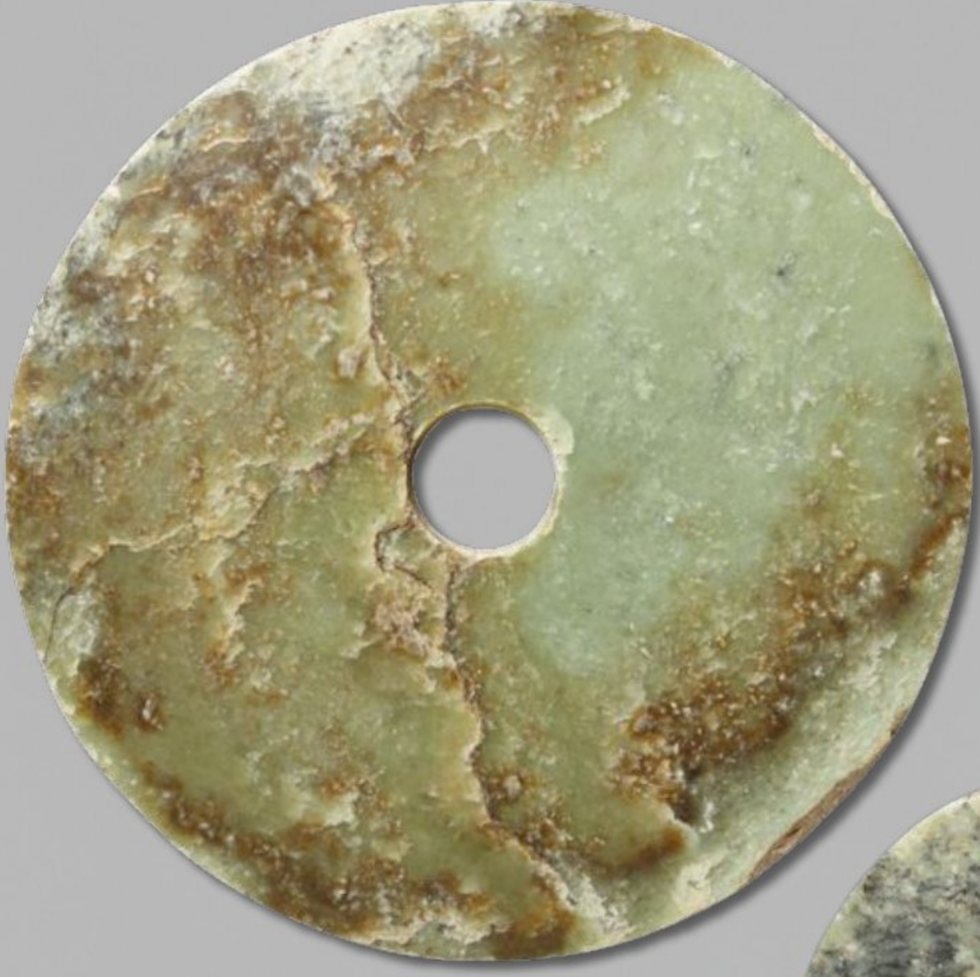
107
Diameter 25.9 cm
直徑 25.9 厘米



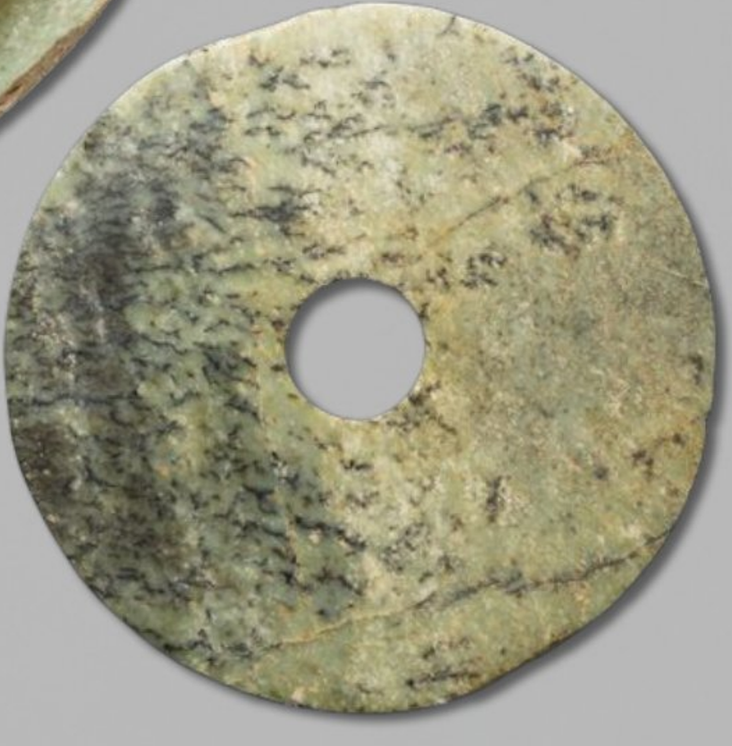
108
Diameter 30.1 cm
直徑 30.1 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 公元前 2200-1600

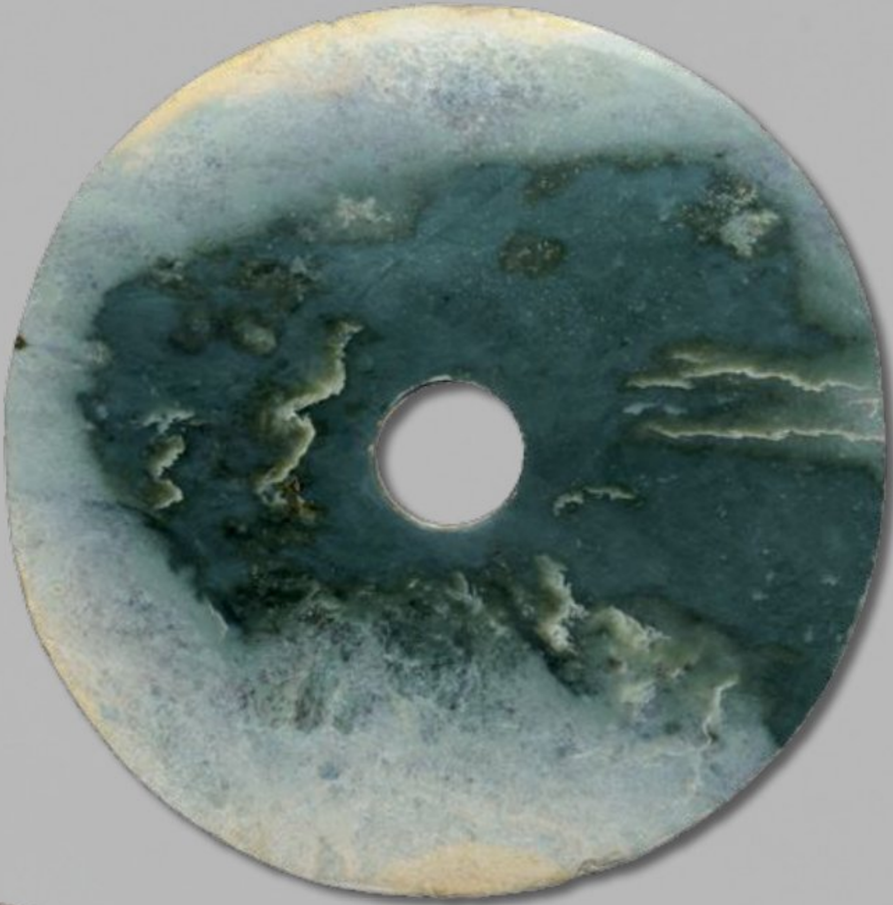
BI DISCS
玉璧



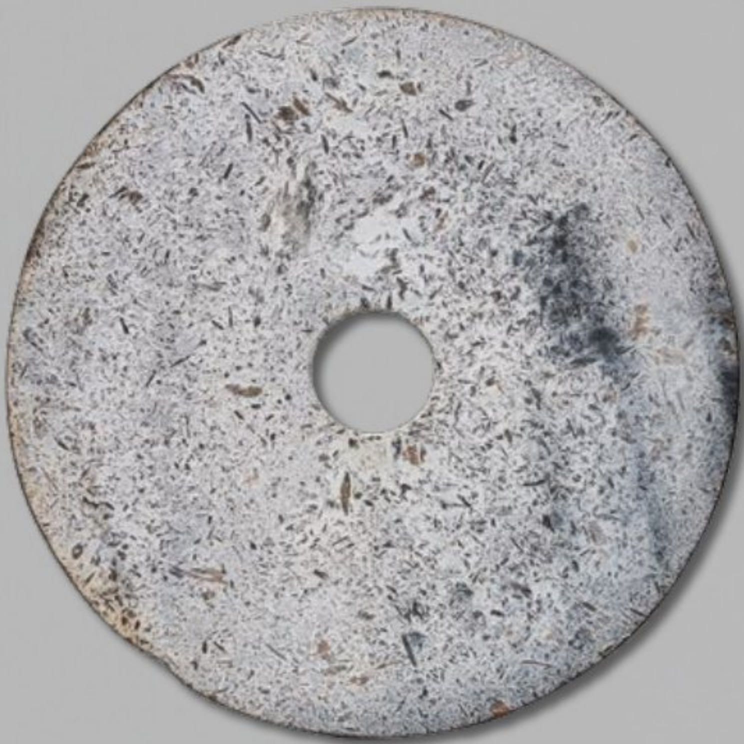
109
Diameter 43.5 cm
直徑 43.5 厘米

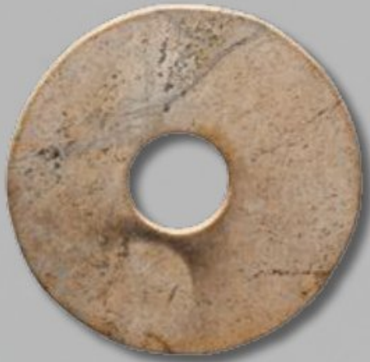


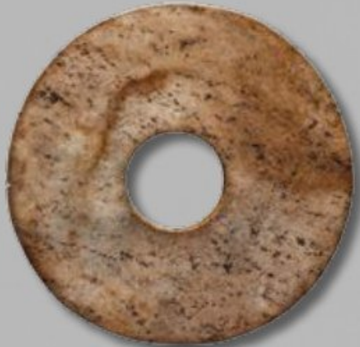
110
Diameter 30.2 cm
直徑 30.2 厘米



111
Diameter 30.7 cm
直徑 30.7 厘米







112
Diameter 27.5 cm
直徑 27.5 厘米

113
Diameter 9.9 cm
直徑 9.9 厘米

114
Diameter 9.8 cm
直徑 9.8 厘米

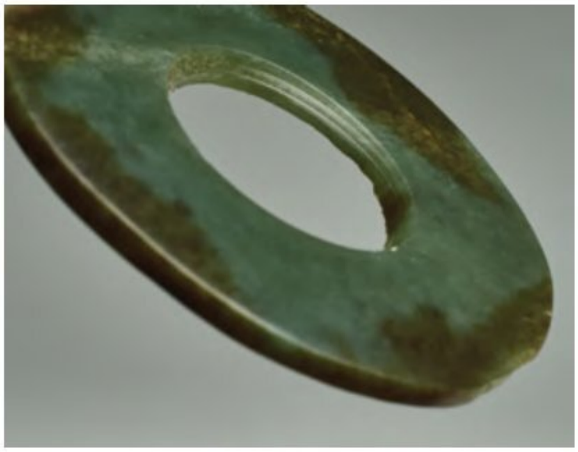
115-120
FIVE DISCS AND ONE RING
五玉璧, 一玉環

Discs carved in jade and stone are among the most common artefacts discovered in burials of the Qijia culture: one of the most richly furnished tombs of the Huangniangniangtai site, in Gansu province, has yielded more than eighty stone discs. The tomb was a joint burial, with a [redacted]

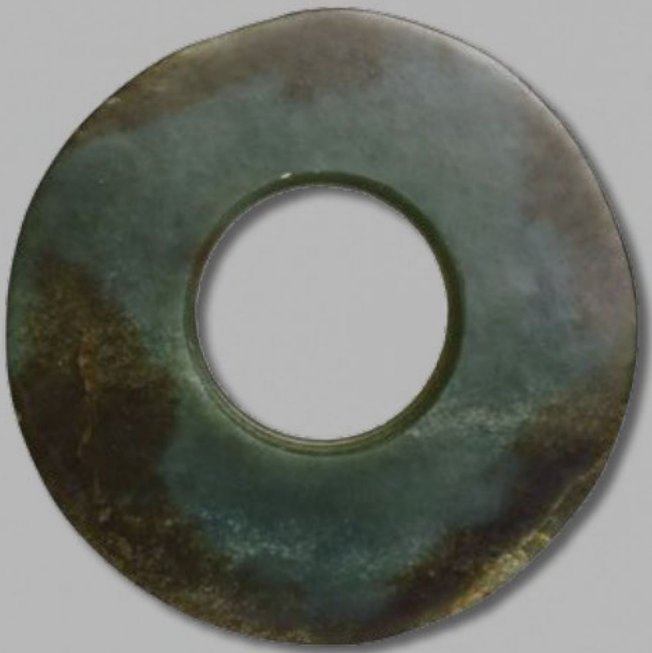
[redacted]

[redacted]

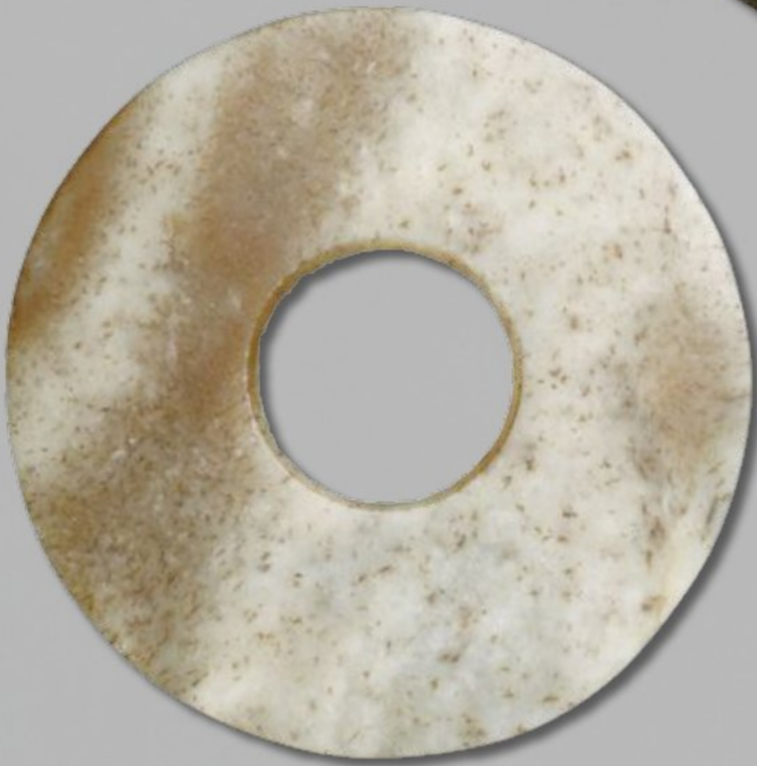
[redacted]



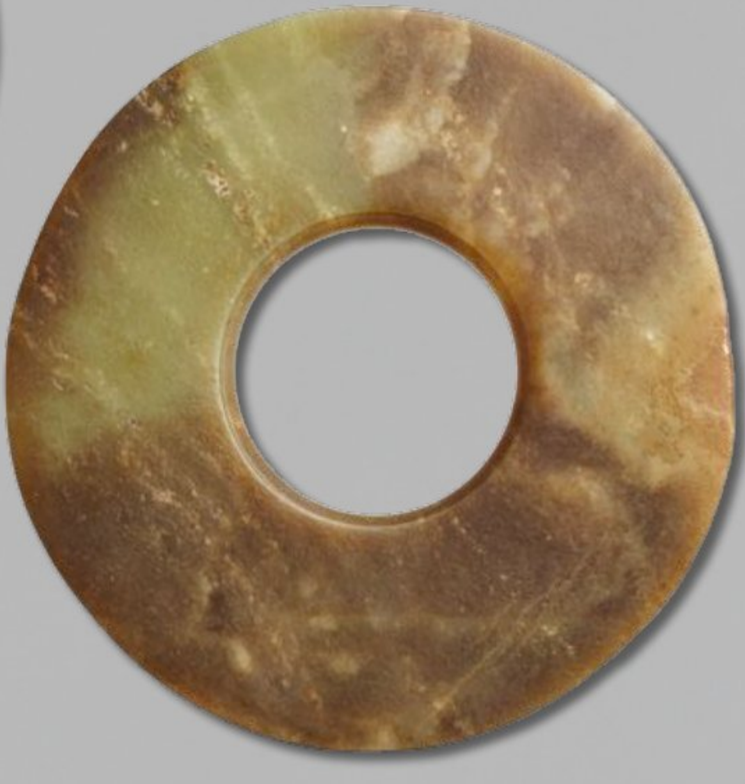
Detail of disc no.115 with visible tool marks in the hole.



115
Diameter 10.5 cm
直徑 10.5 厘米



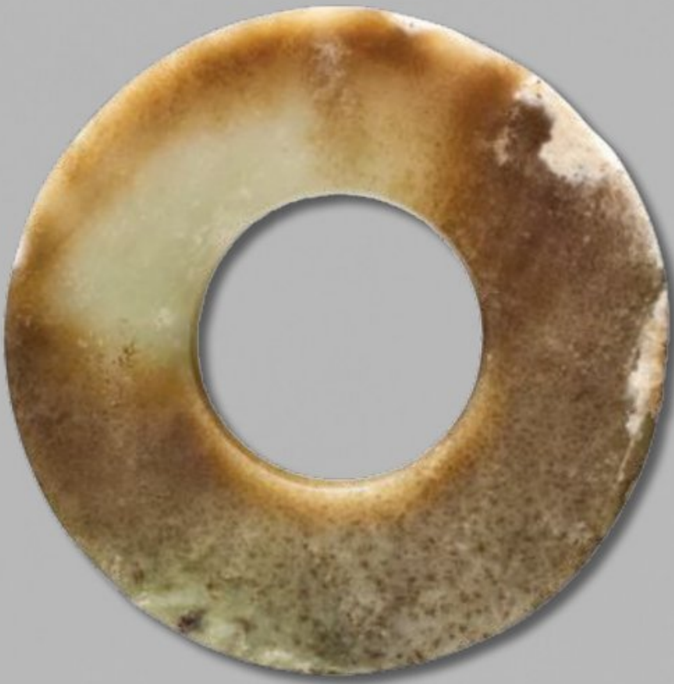
116
Diameter 12 cm
直徑 12 厘米

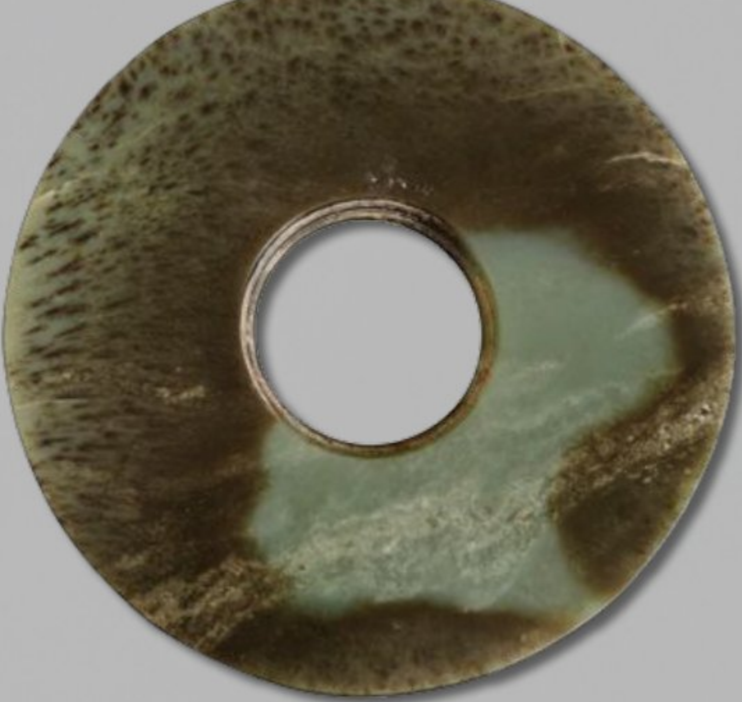


117
Diameter 12 cm
直徑 12 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

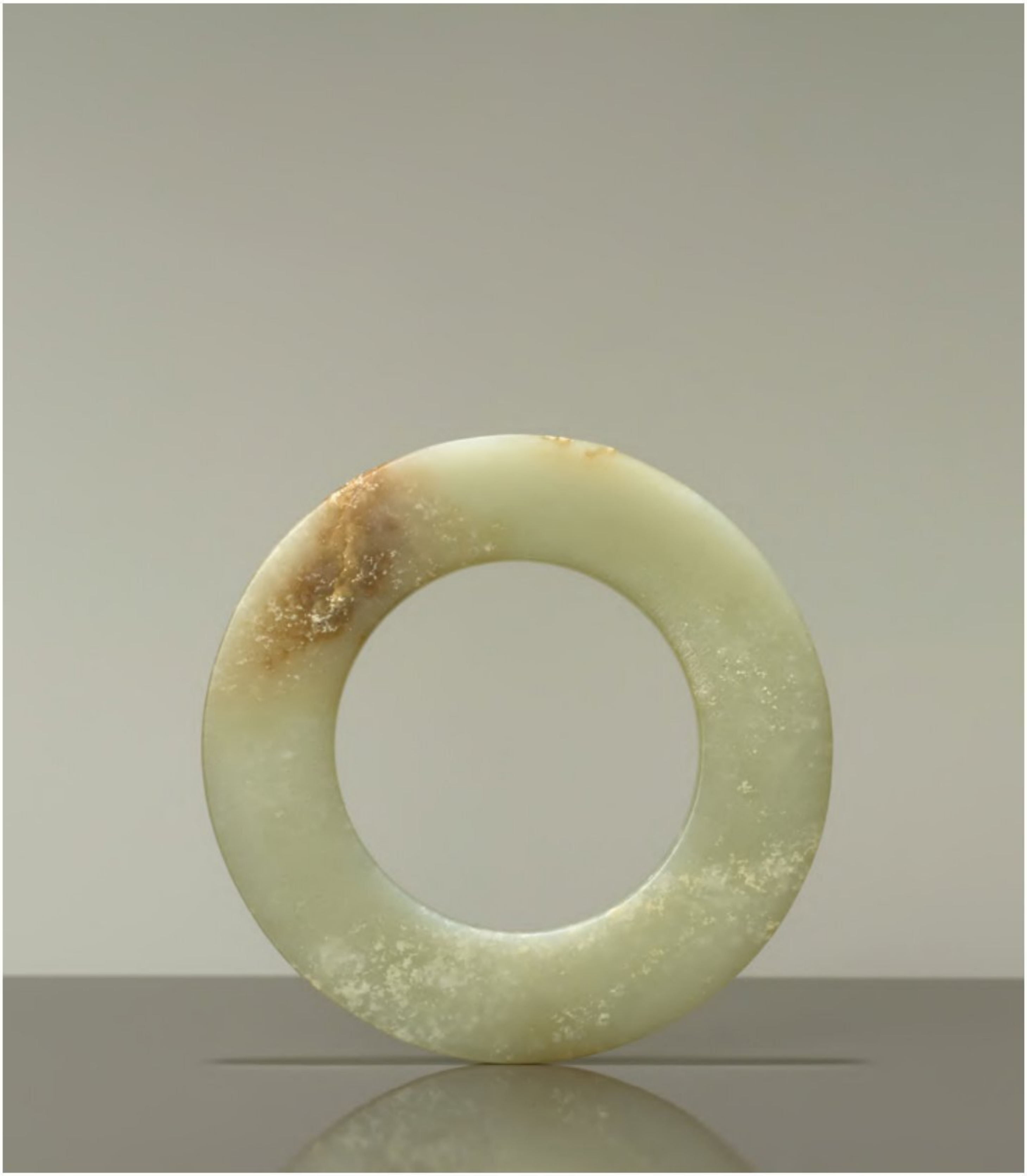
DISCS AND RING
玉璧, 玉瑗





118
Diameter 9 cm
直徑 9 厘米

119
Diameter 15.4 cm
直徑 15.4 厘米



120
Diameter 11.2 cm
直徑 11.2 厘米

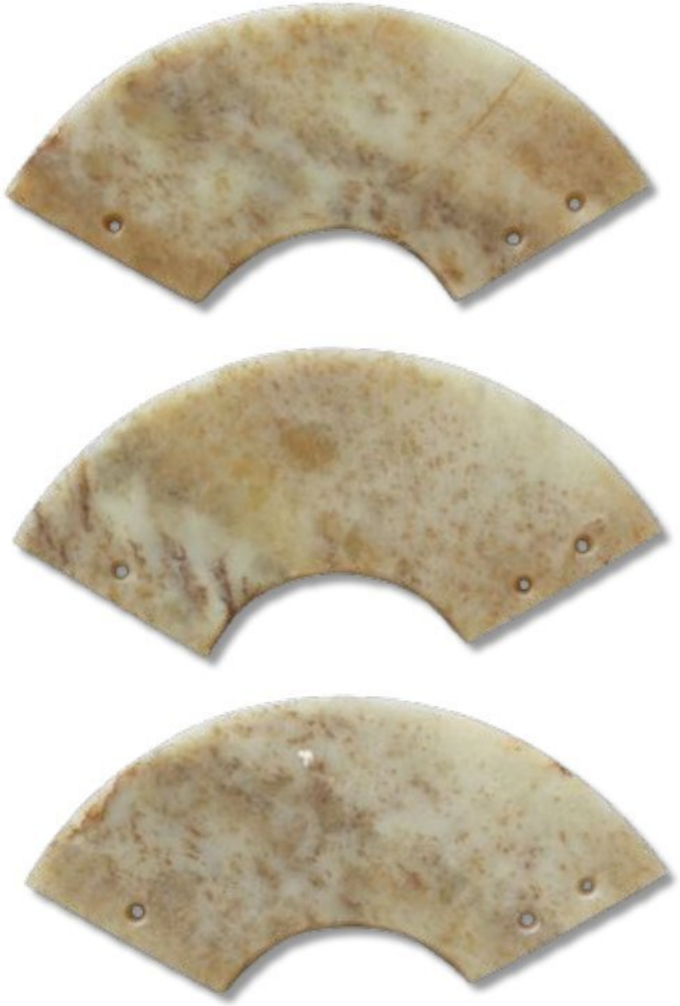
EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

121-123
THREE- AND FOUR-SECTION DISCS
三, 四節玉璧

Segmented discs represent another category of jades that is mostly attested amongst the finds of cultures of north-western China, especially Qijia. These discs are commonly made of two to four [redacted]

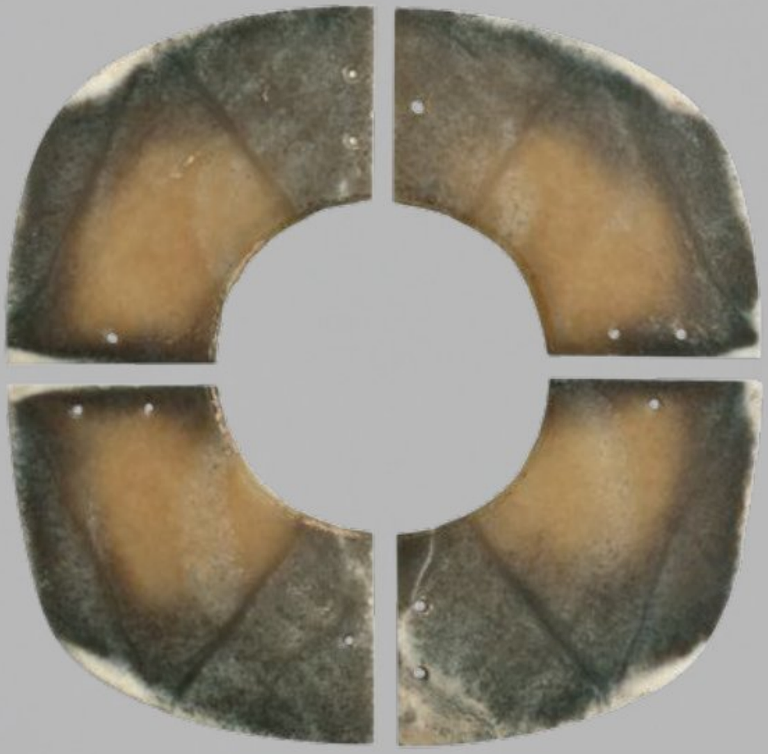
[redacted]

[redacted]

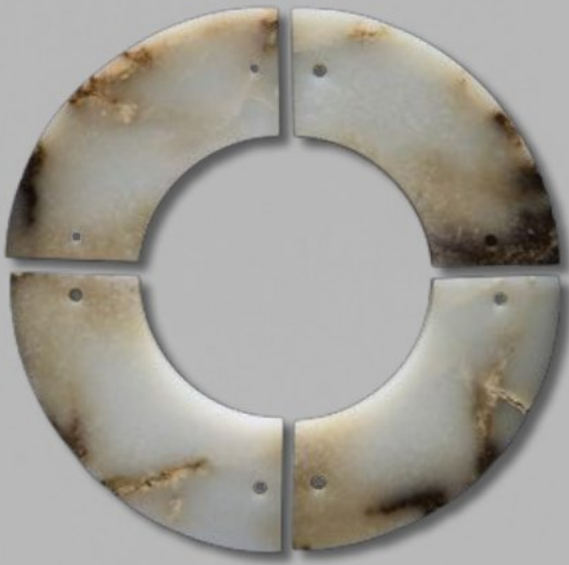


123
Width 15.1 cm
長 15.1 厘米

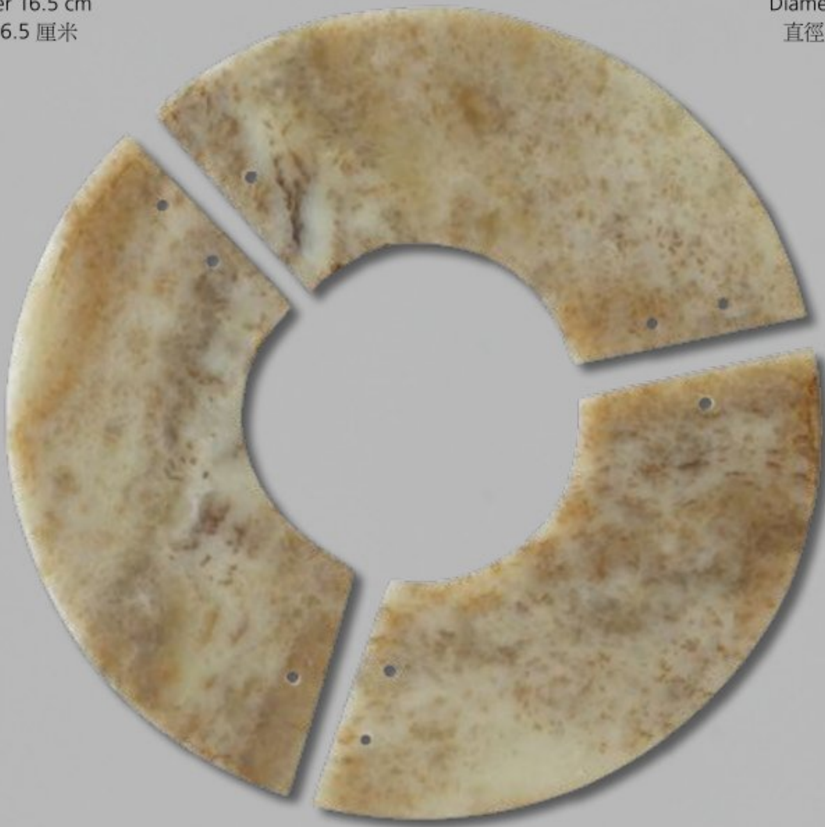
[redacted]



121
Diameter 16.5 cm
直徑 16.5 厘米



122
Diameter 12 cm
直徑 12 厘米



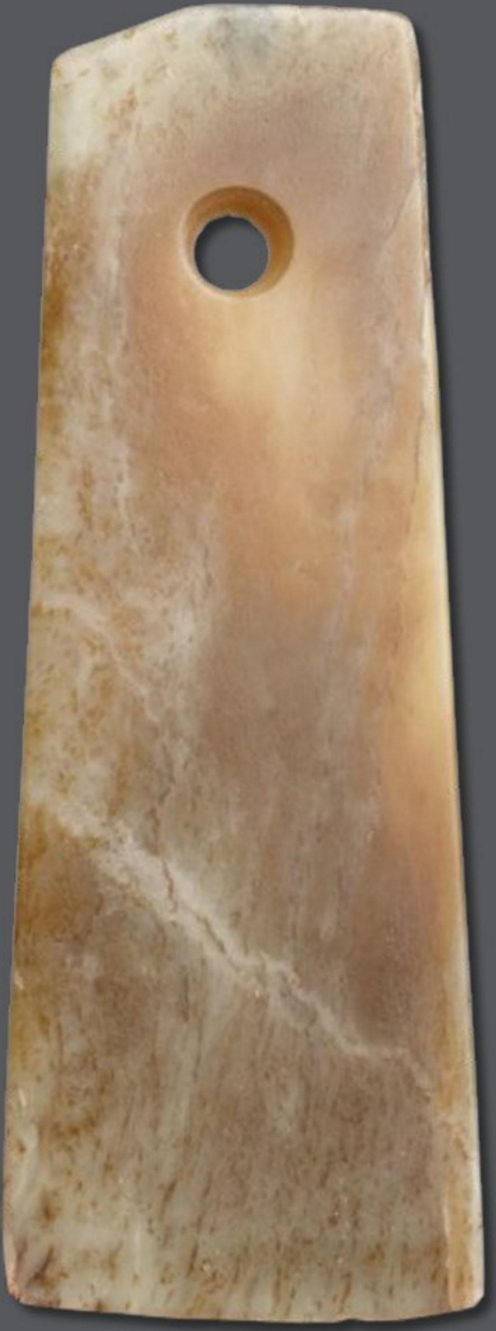
123
Diameter 17.5 cm
直徑 17.5 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

124 -128
FIVE *FU* AXES
五玉斧

These are some examples of jade axes and ceremonial blades which were manufactured by cultures located in central and north-western China, such as Qijia. The shape of these blades [redacted]

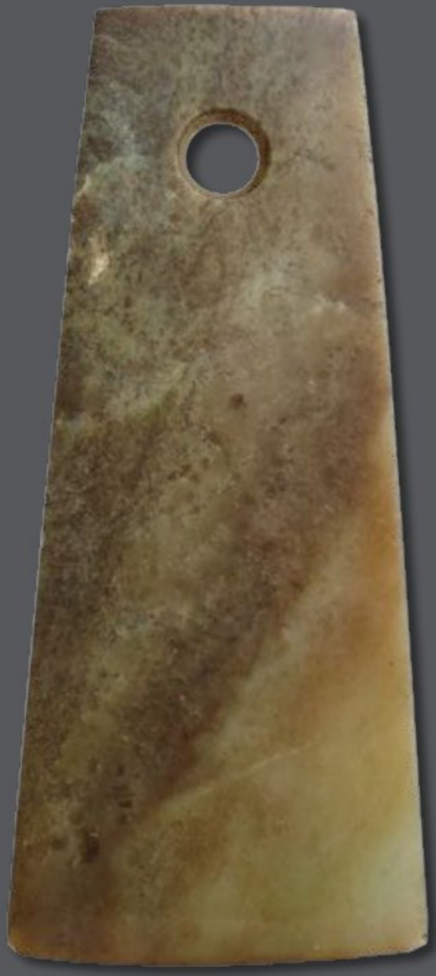
[redacted]



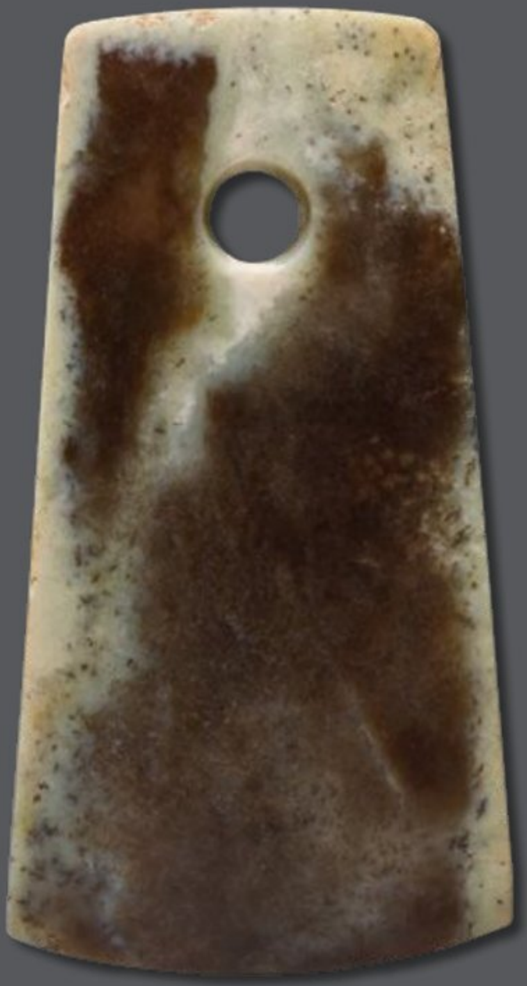
124
Length 15.3 cm
長 15.3 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期，齊家文化，公元前 2200-1600

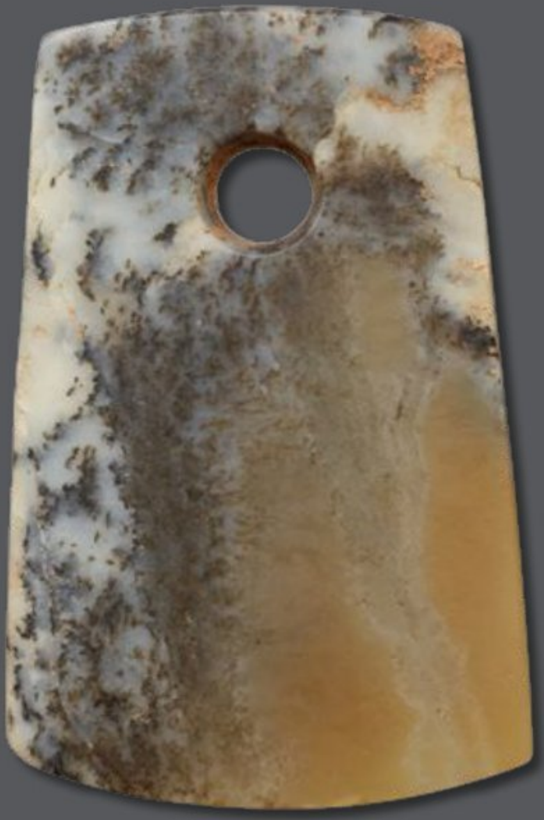
FU AXES
玉斧



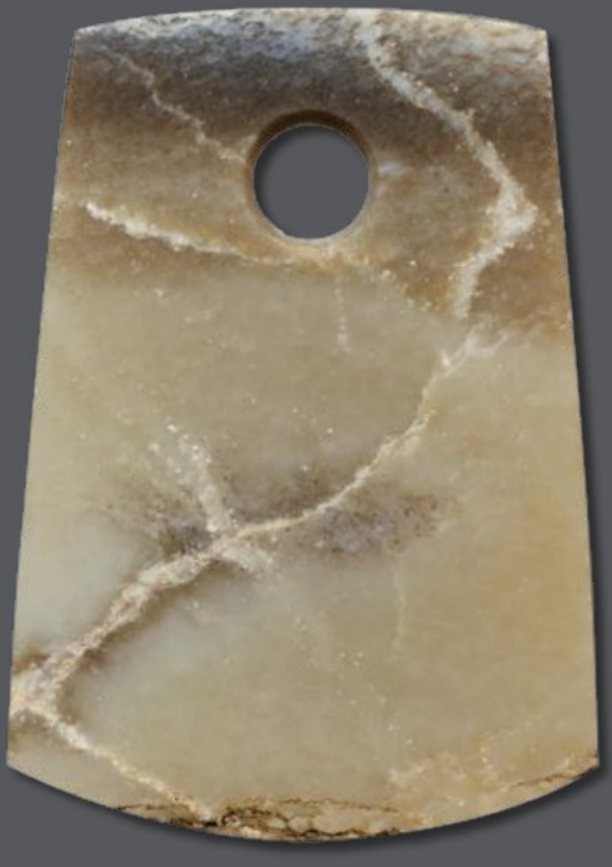
125
Length 17.3 cm
長 17.3 厘米



126
Length 16.6 cm
長 16.6 厘米



127
Length 8.3 cm
長 8.3 厘米



128
Length 12 cm
長 12 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

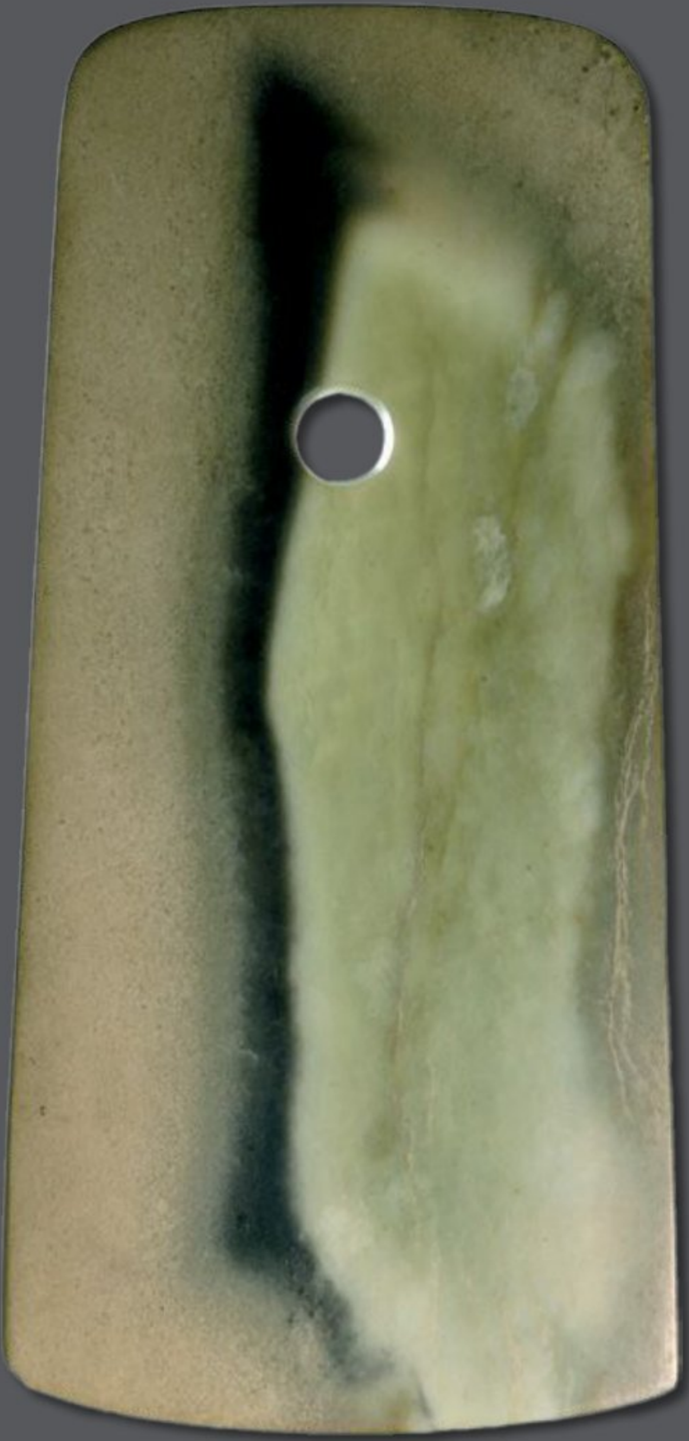
129-131
THREE *FU* AXES
三玉斧

The three axes illustrated here, which can be assigned to the cultures of north-western China, come from the collection of the German-Dutch palaeontologist and geologist G.H. Ralph von Koenigswald (1902-1982).[1]

[redacted]

[redacted]

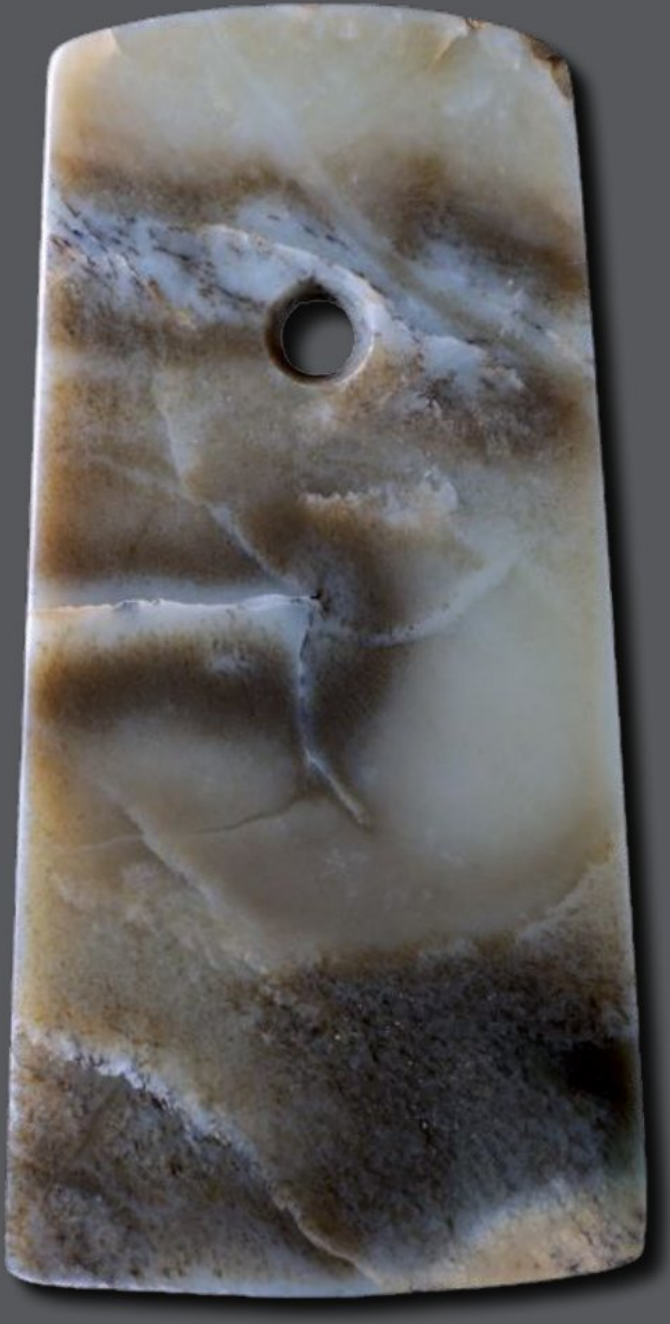
[redacted]



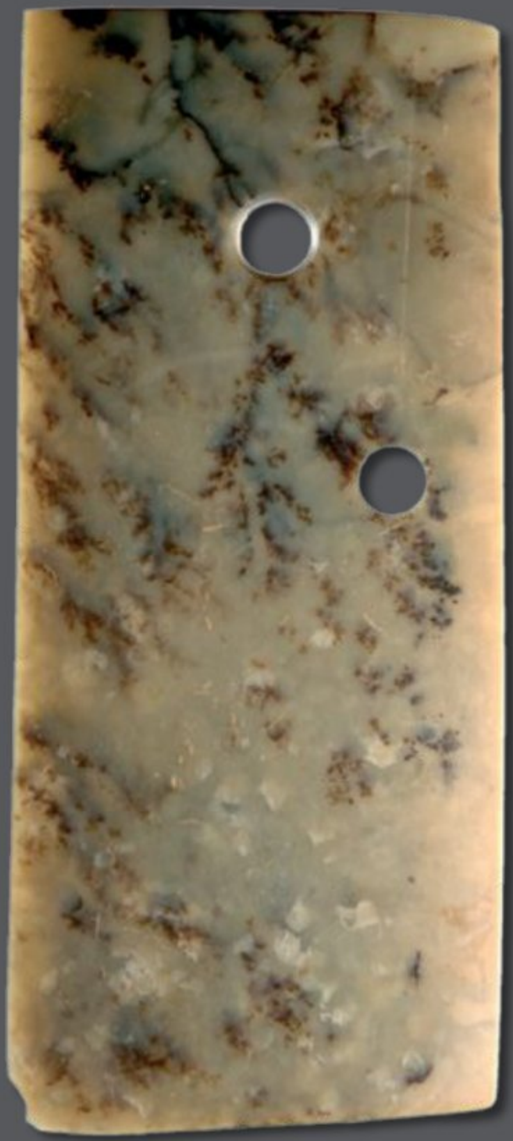
129
Length 18.1 cm
長 18.1 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

FU AXES
玉斧



130
Length 17.2 cm
長 17.2 厘米



131
Length 14.7 cm
長 14.7 厘米

132-133
TWO ADZE-LIKE BLADES, *BEN*
兩玉錛

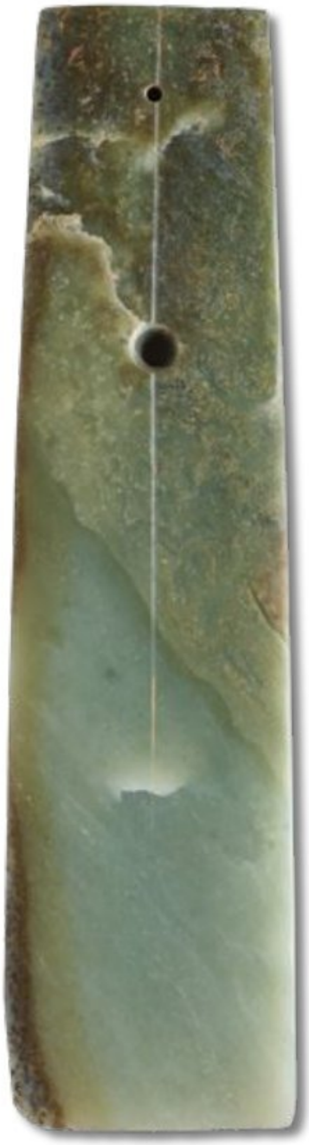
Jade blades of remarkable sizes with ceremonial or ritual functions, such as those presented here, are one of the most impressive symbols of authority of the elites who ruled early Chinese societies during the transitional phase [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

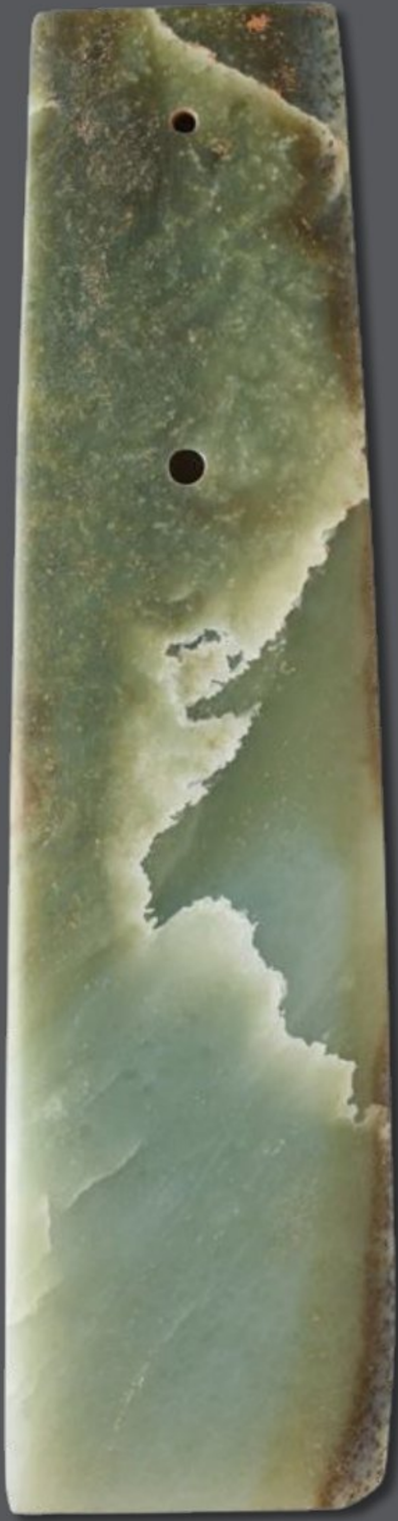
[redacted]

[redacted]

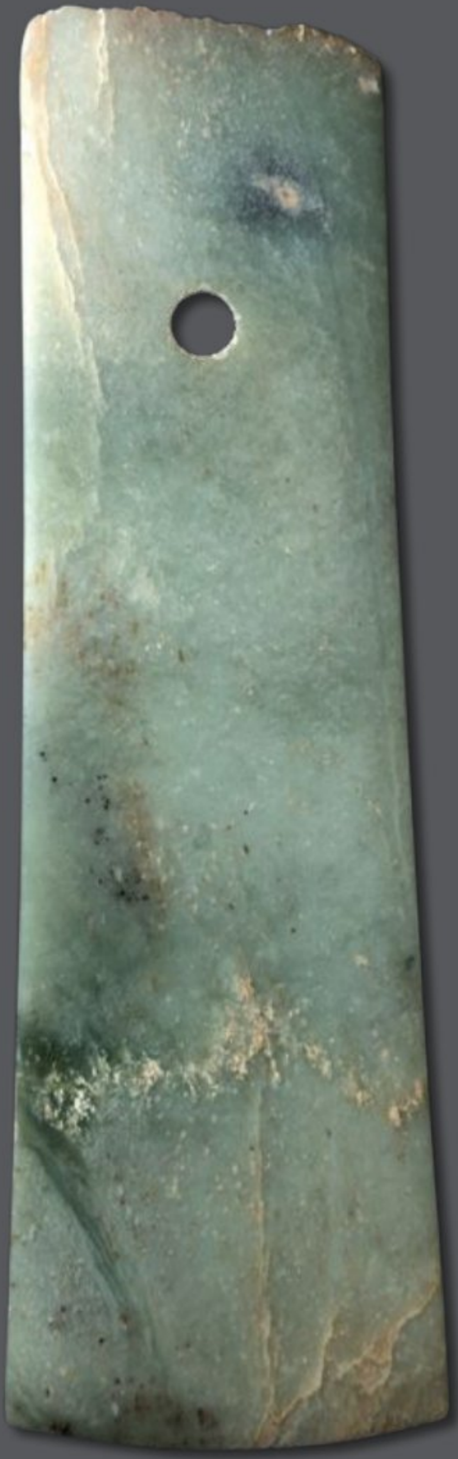


The back of no.132,
with a central groove.

[redacted]



132
Length 25.4 cm - Width 6.4 cm
長 25.4 厘米 - 寬 6.4 厘米



133
Length 24.3 cm - Width 7.6 cm
長 24.3 厘米 - 寬 7.6 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

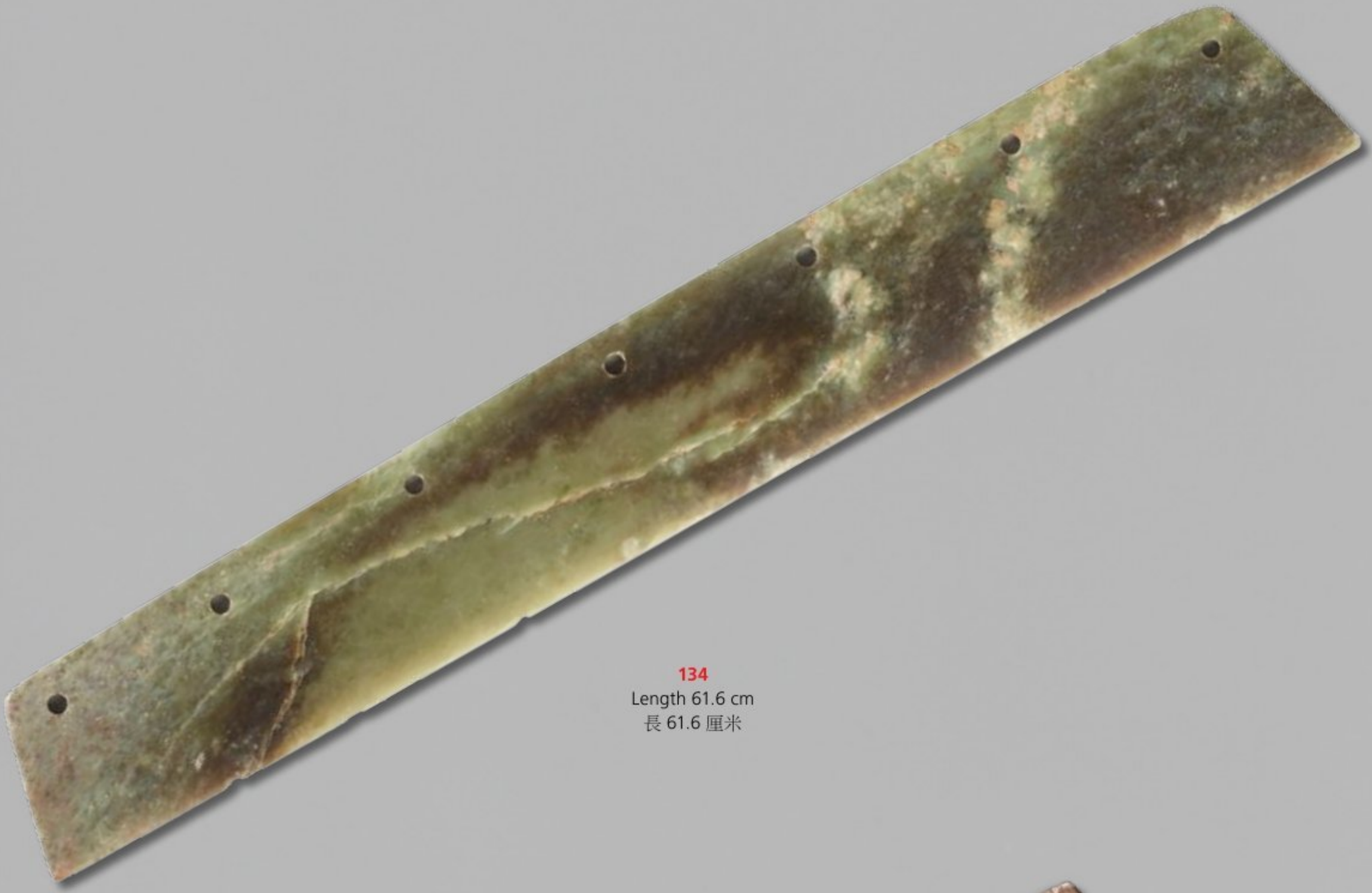
134-135
TWO LONG KNIFE-SHAPED BLADES, *DAO*, WITH SEVEN AND FOUR HOLES
兩七孔,四孔長玉刀

These two very long, slender ceremonial jades are examples of imposing blades whose shape is derived from similar stone farming tools of earlier date, such as the harvesting knives [redacted]

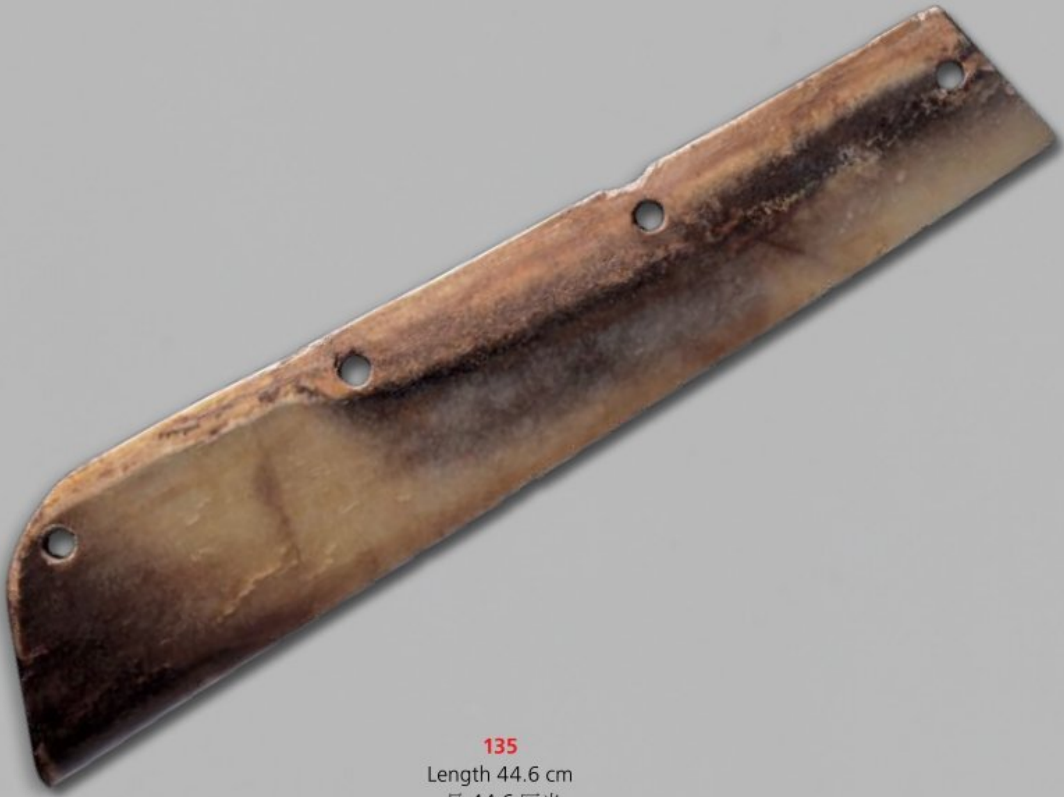
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



134
Length 61.6 cm
長 61.6 厘米



135
Length 44.6 cm
長 44.6 厘米

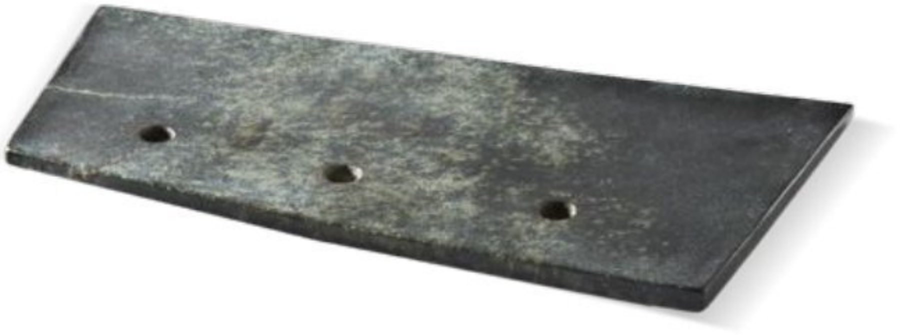
EARLY BRONZE AGE, ERLITOU CULTURE, C.1900-1700 BC
青銅器時代早期, 二里頭文化, 公元前 1900-1700

136
KNIFE-SHAPED BLADE, *DAO*, WITH THREE HOLES
三孔玉刀

This large *dao* 刀 is a further example of knife-shaped blades and matches similar jades discovered in central China, in particular those from Erlitou in Yanshi county, Henan province. Erlitou, located in the middle reaches of the Yellow River, was an important urban settlement [redacted]

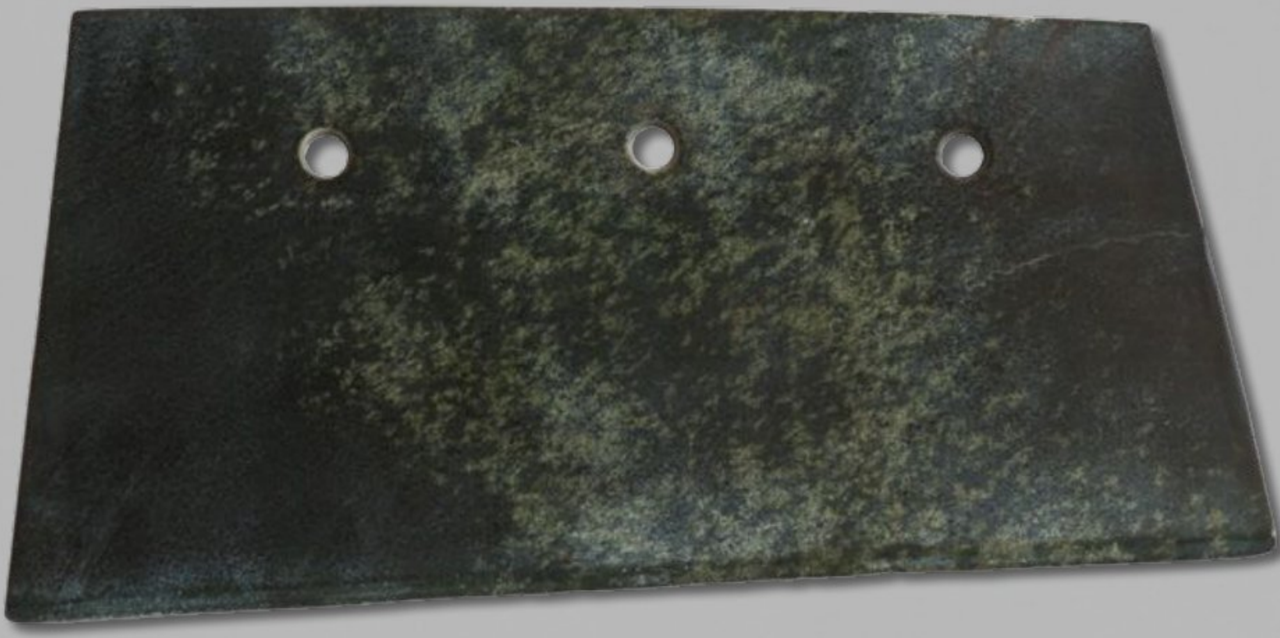
[redacted]

[redacted]



Another view of the ritual blade no.136.

[redacted]



136
Length 27.1 cm
長 27.1 厘米

EARLY BRONZE AGE, QIJIA CULTURE, C.2200-1600 BC
青銅器時代早期, 齊家文化, 公元前 2200-1600

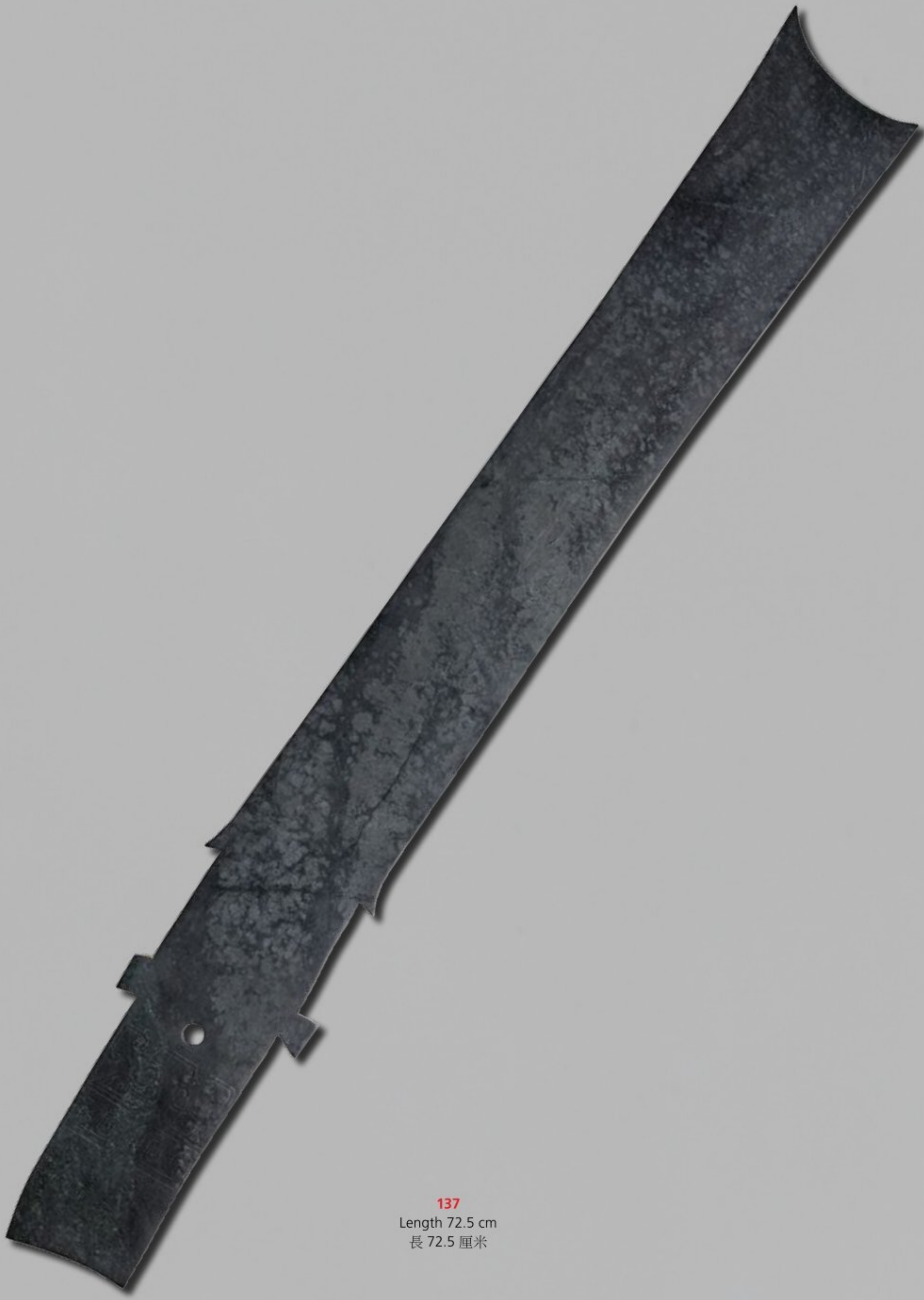
137-139
THREE *ZHANG* BLADES
三玉璋

Of all the blades crafted in the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age, the *zhang* 璋, illustrated here, is probably the most striking. *Zhang* are always very long, and the blade, which narrows down near the centre, is separated from the tang by small [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



137
Length 72.5 cm
長 72.5 厘米

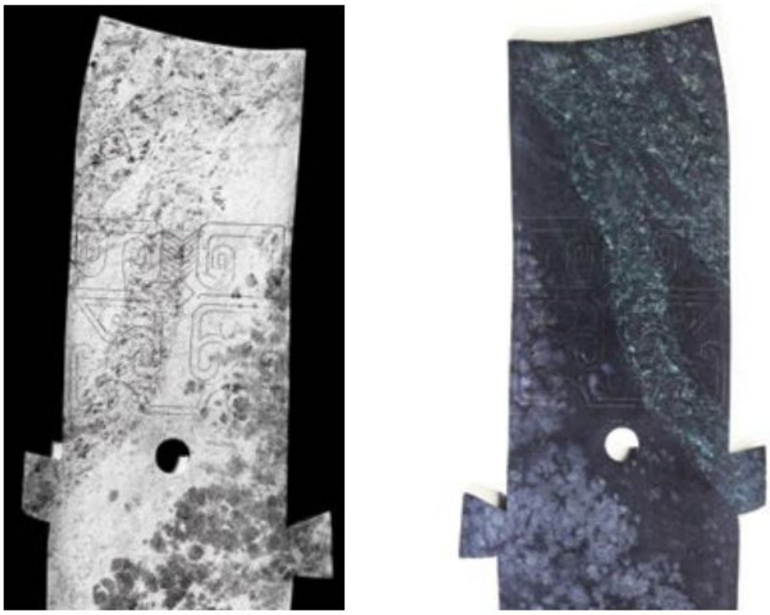


Fig.13

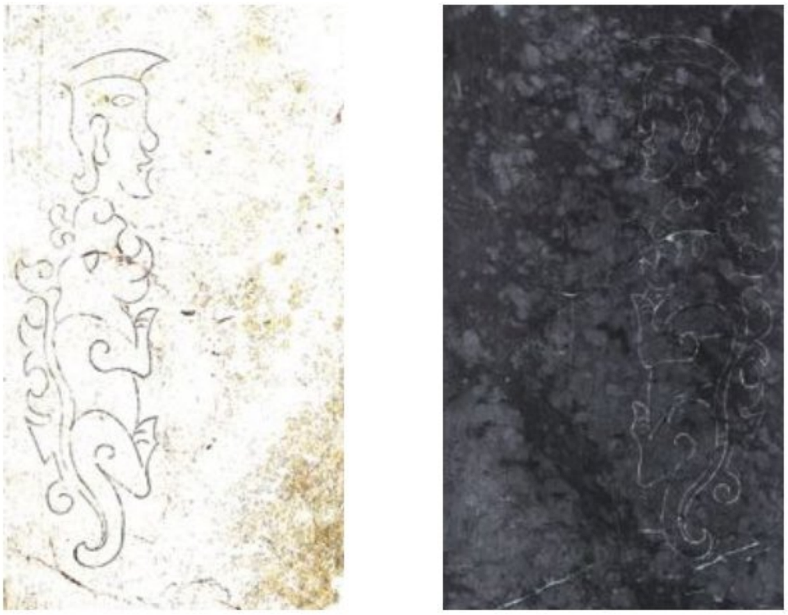
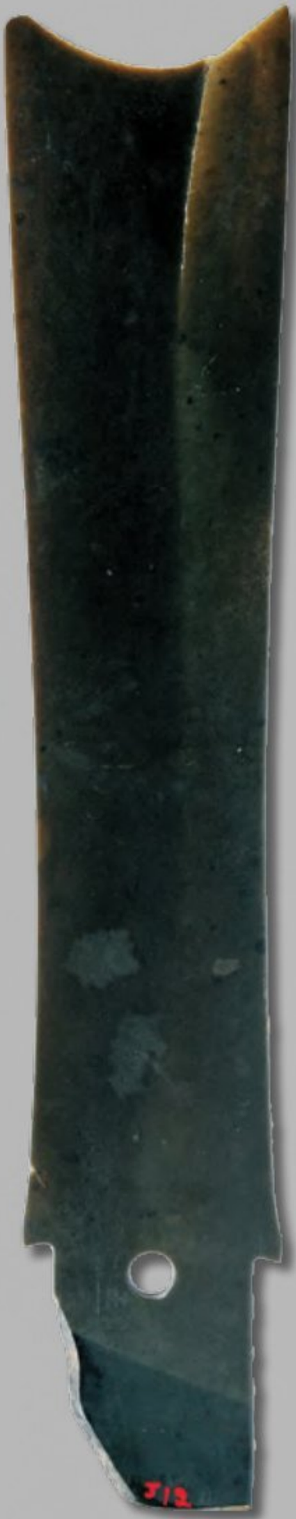
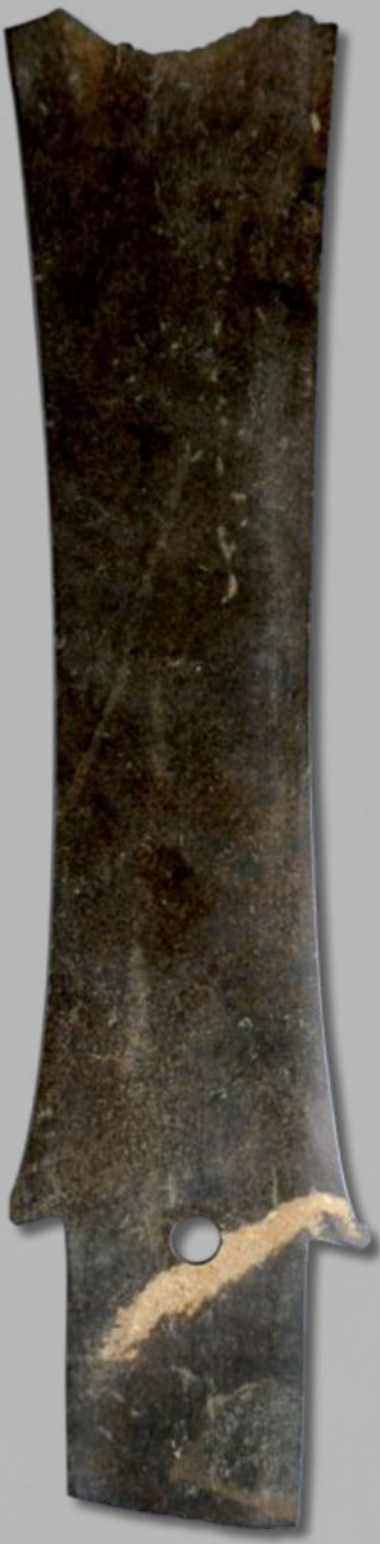


Fig.14
Details of the faintly carved motifs on the tang and blade of *zhang* no.137.



138
Length 29.3 cm
長 29.3 厘米



139
Length 29.9 cm
長 29.9 厘米

LATE NEOLITHIC, EARLY BRONZE AGE PERIOD, C.2000-1700 BC
新石器時代晚期, 青銅器時代早期, 公元前 2000-1700

140
***ZHANG* BLADE**
玉璋

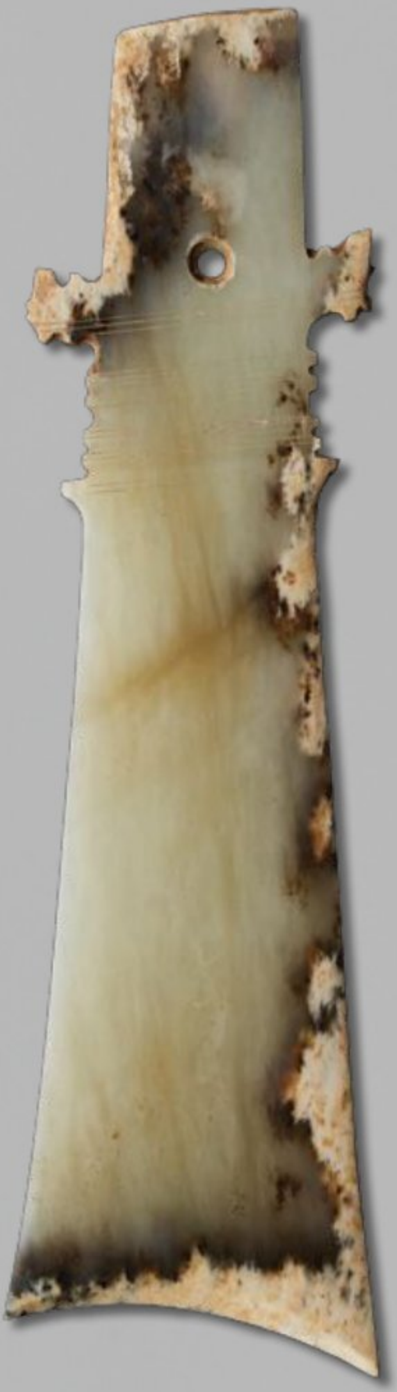
141
NOTCHED *QI* BLADE
齒牙玉鉞

Blades of the late Neolithic and Bronze Age were often decorated with indentations carved on the sides, which were used to emphasize the ceremonial status of these jades. These notches [redacted]

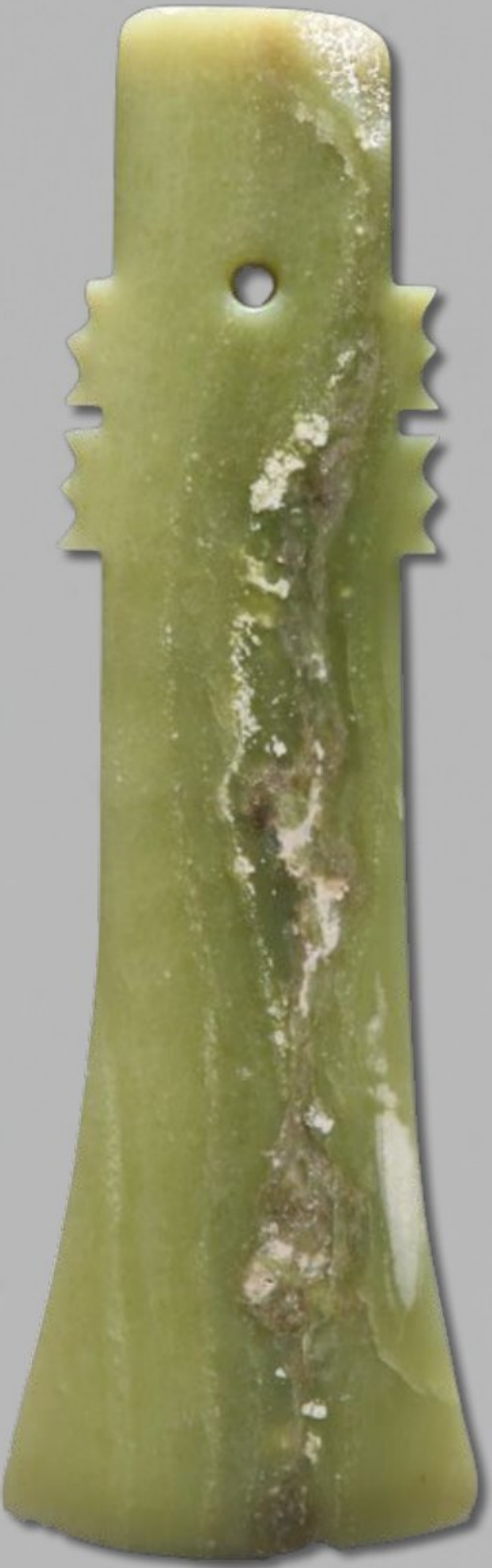
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



140
Length 23.6 cm
長 23.6 厘米



141
Length 29.5 cm
長 29.5 厘米

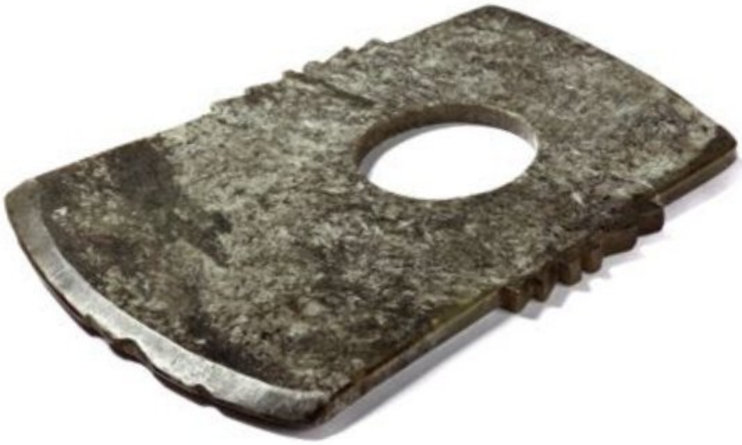
142
NOTCHED *QI* AXE
齒牙玉鏚

143
NOTCHED *YUE* AXE
齒牙玉鉞

The first of the two axes presented here, no.142, is a variation of the *qi* 戚 axe which is mostly attested in the finds of Erlitou (Yanshi, Henan province). The main consistent features of this rather peculiar ceremonial axe are the large hole drilled in the centre, the faceted cutting edge, rounded butt and the regular notches carved [redacted]

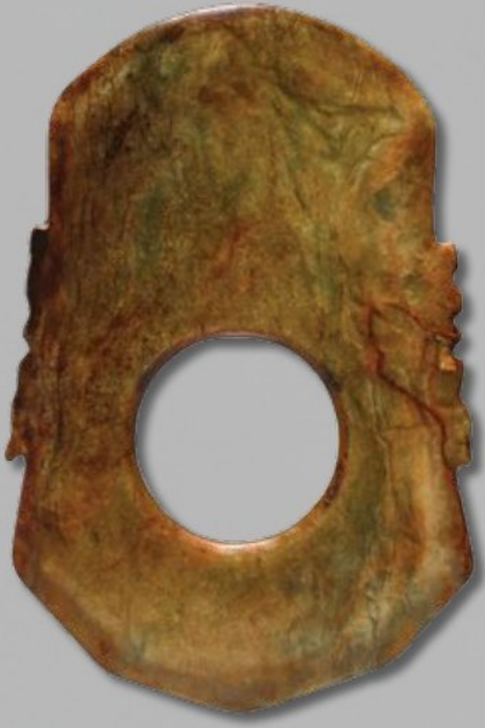
[redacted]

[redacted]

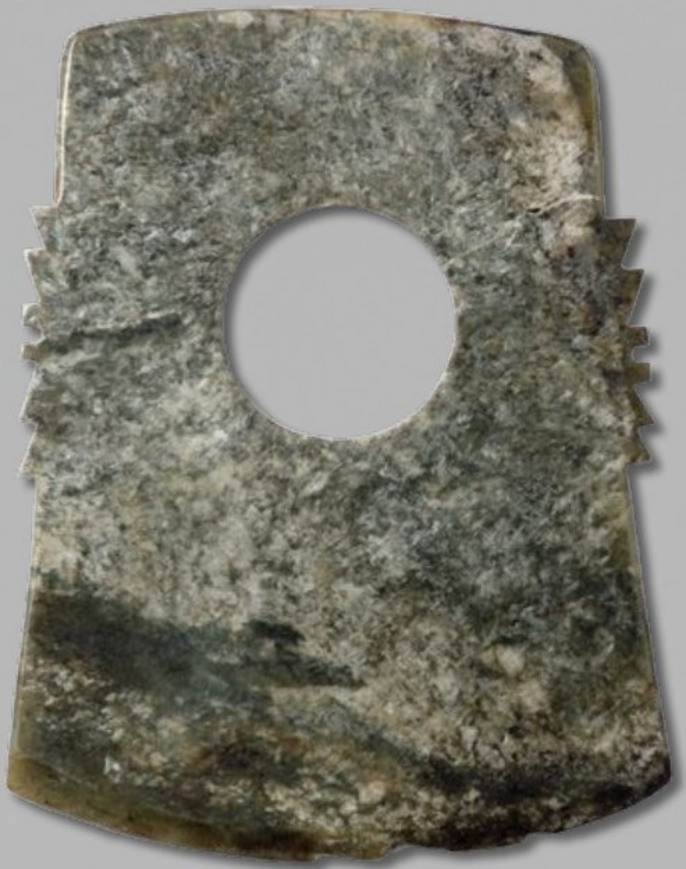


143

[redacted]



142
Length 13.3 cm
長 13.3 厘米



143
Length 21.5 cm
長 21.5 厘米

LATE SHANG, C.1200 BC
商代晚期, 公元前 1200

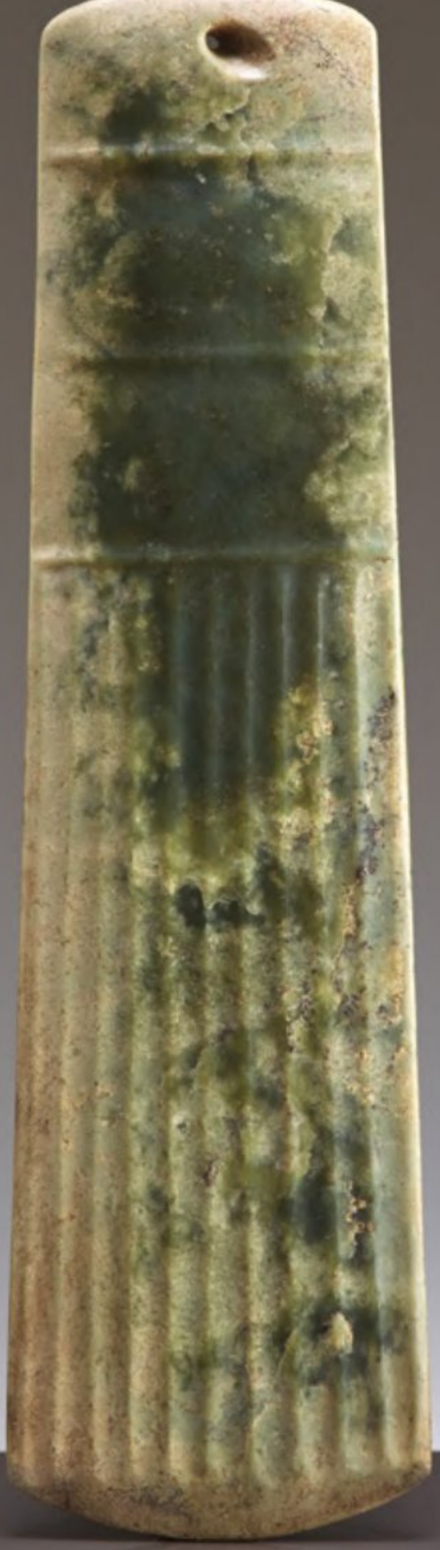
144
SCEPTRE-SHAPED JADE, *GUI*
玉圭

This large sceptre-like jade closes this group of ceremonial blades and at the same time introduces Shang and Western Zhou jades. In fact, this type of tablet-shaped sceptre decorated with longitudinal carved grooves is documented [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



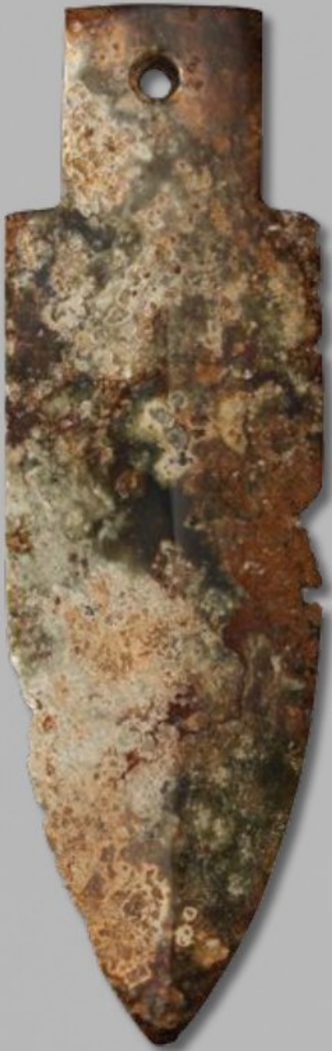
144
Length 35 cm
長 35 厘米

JADE IN HISTORIC TIMES: THE LATE SHANG AND WESTERN ZHOU PERIODS

The Shang is the first historic dynasty of ancient China. Its existence is also documented by contemporary epigraphic evidence, the so-called "oracle-bones" that were discovered in the site of the last Shang capital, Yinxu, near present-day Anyang, in Henan province (c.13th-11th [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



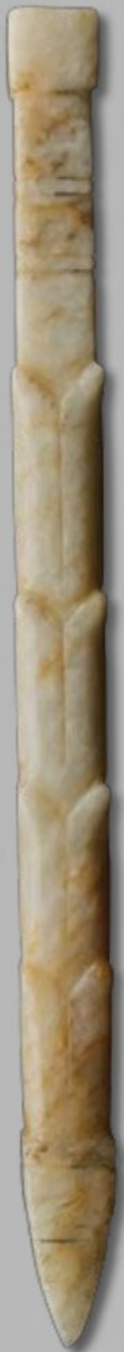
145

PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A *GE*

戈形玉佩

Length 13.6 cm

長 13.6 厘米



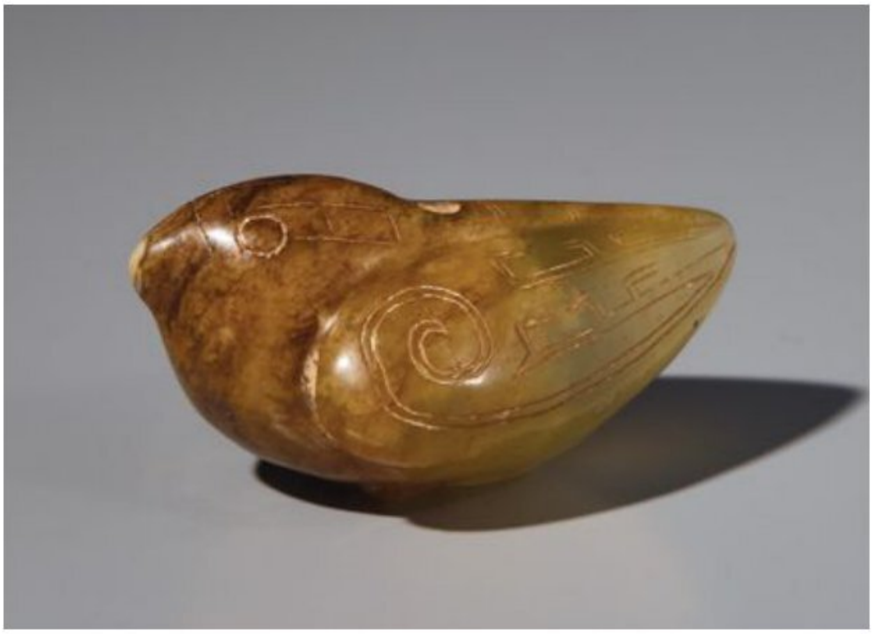
146

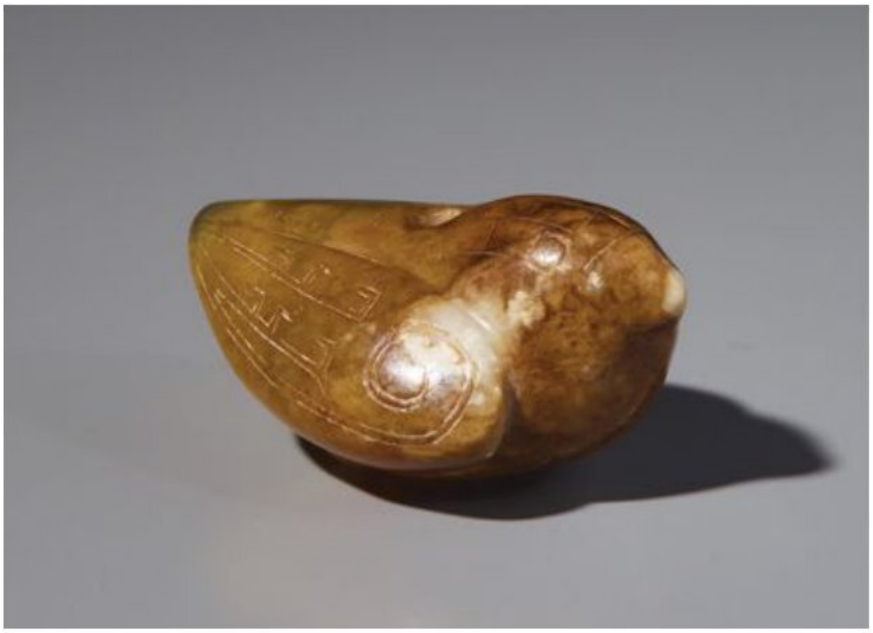
HANDLE-SHAPED JADE

柄形玉器

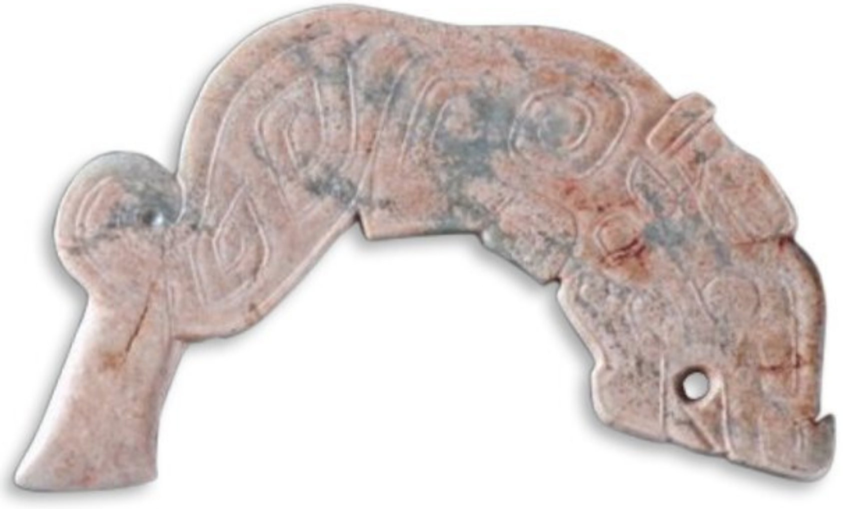
Length 18 cm

長 18 厘米





147
BIRD-SHAPED PENDANT
鳥形玉佩
Length 4.2 cm
長 4.2 厘米
(two views)



[redacted]

148

DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT

龍形玉佩

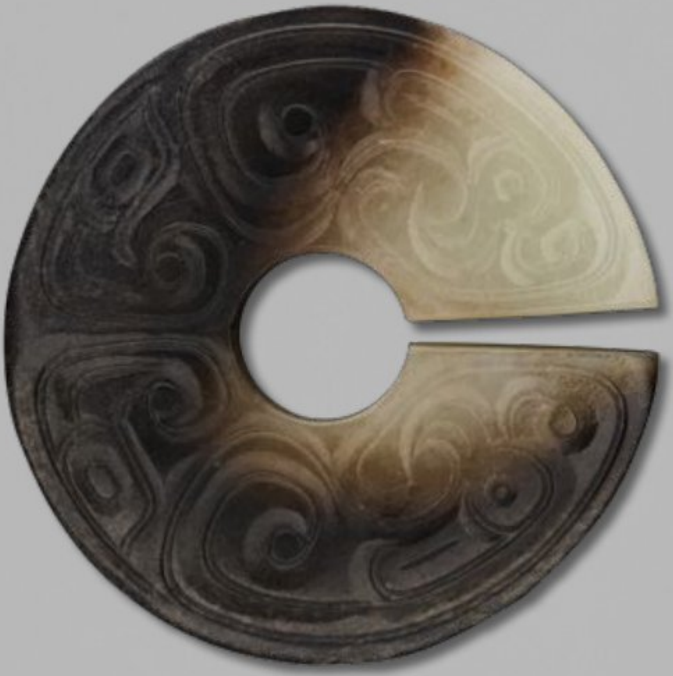
LATE SHANG, 13TH-11TH CENTURY BC

商代晚期, 公元前 13世紀-11世紀

Length 10.9 cm

長 10.9 厘米

[redacted]



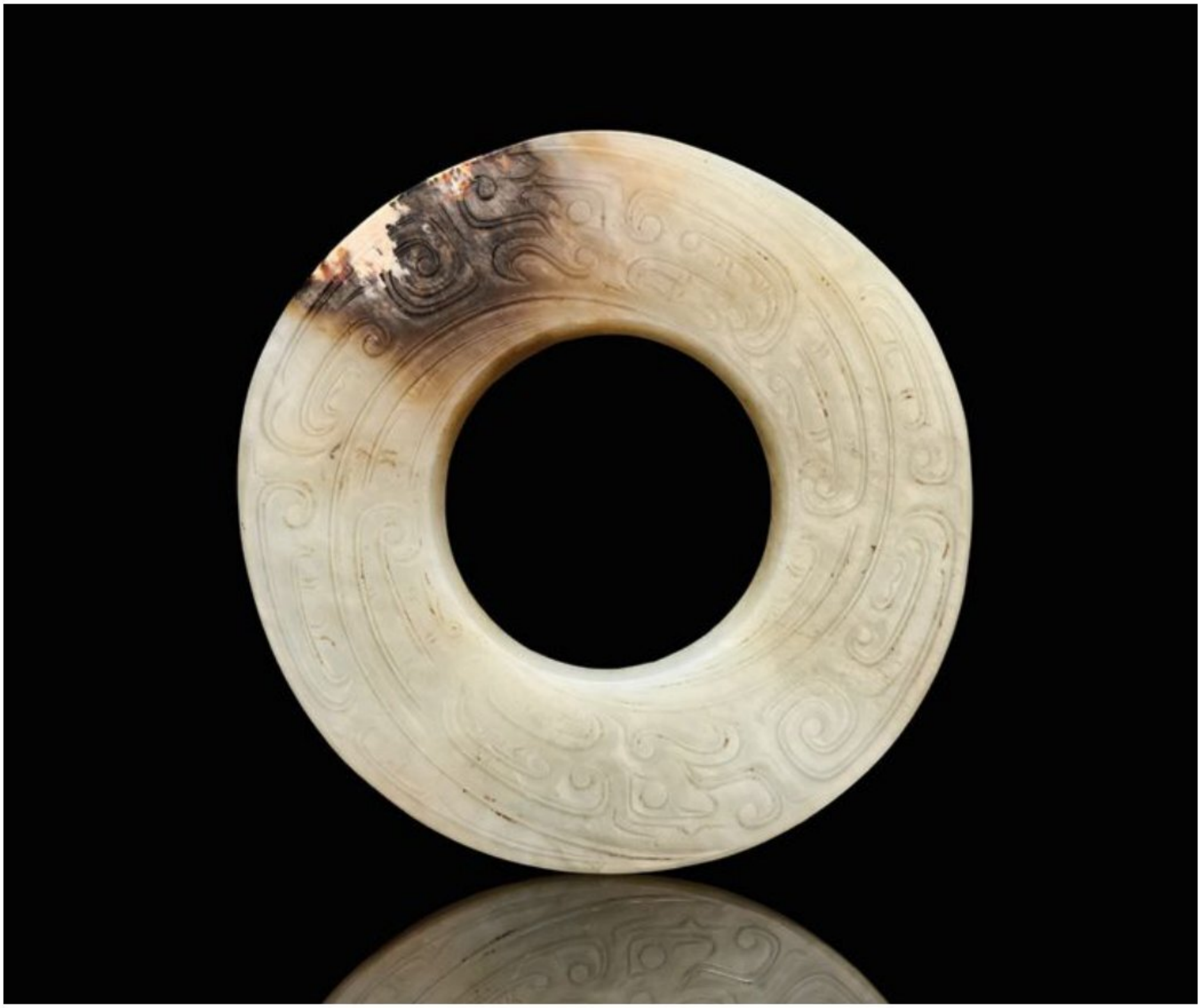
149

JUE **SLIT-RING WITH PHOENIX AND DRAGON MOTIFS**

鳳龍紋玉玦

Diameter 6.4 cm

直徑 6.4 厘米



150

***HUAN* RING WITH DOUBLE DRAGON MOTIF**

雙龍紋玉環

Diameter 11.3 cm

直徑 11.3 厘米

LATE SHANG, 13TH - 11TH CENTURY BC
商代晚期, 公元前13世紀-前11世紀

151
JUE SLIT-DISC IN THE SHAPE OF A COILED DRAGON
蟠龍形玉玦

152
COILED DRAGON-SHAPED DISC
蟠龍形玉璧

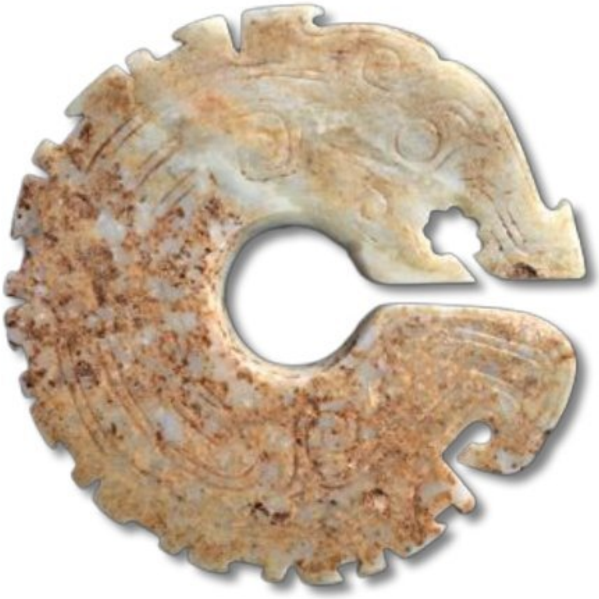
The two jades that open this section dedicated to Shang carvings are both shaped as coiled dragons and display similar features. The immediate ancestors of these late Shang dragons are ultimately the [redacted]

[redacted]

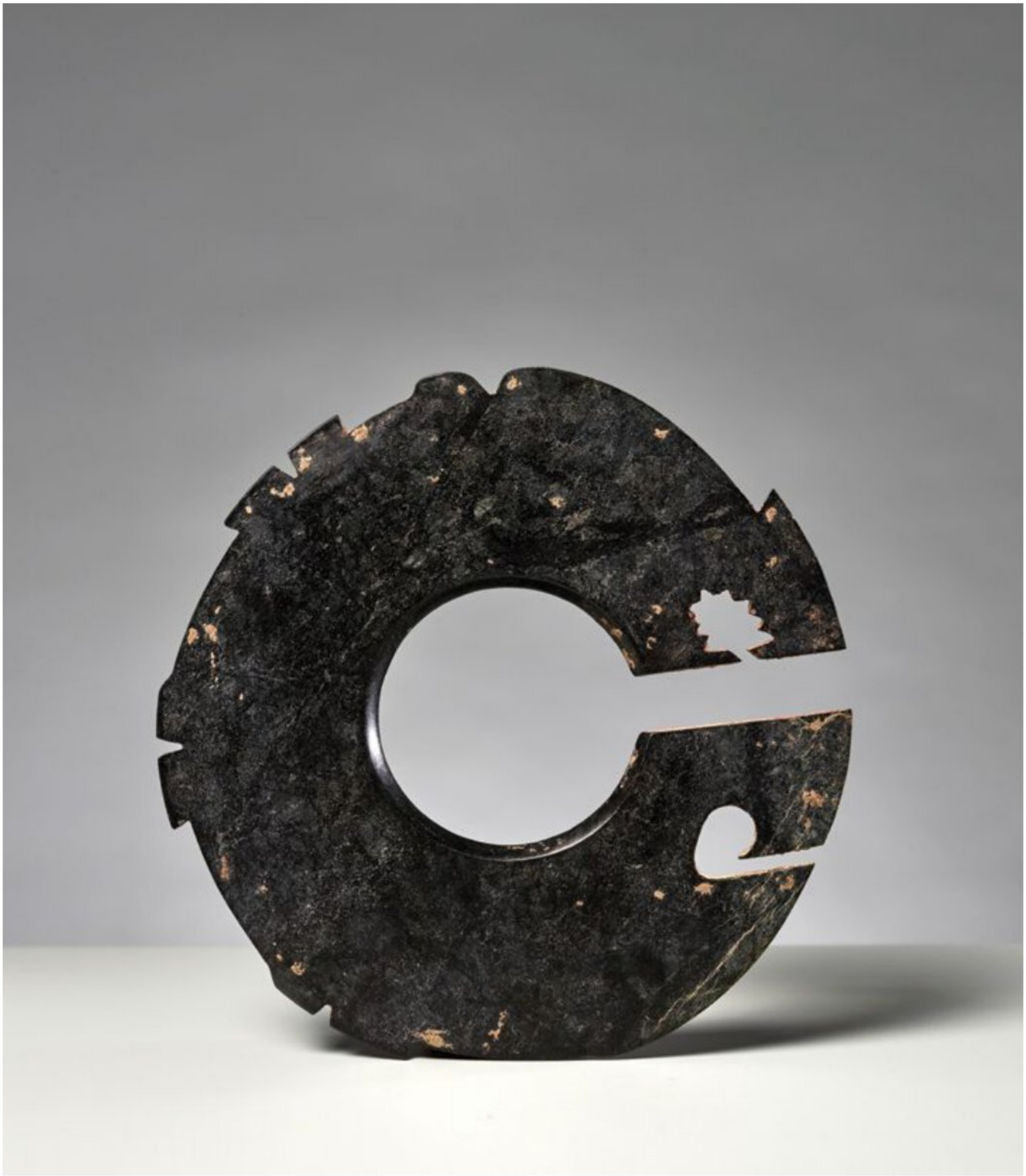
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



151
Diameter 5.5 cm
直徑 5.5 厘米



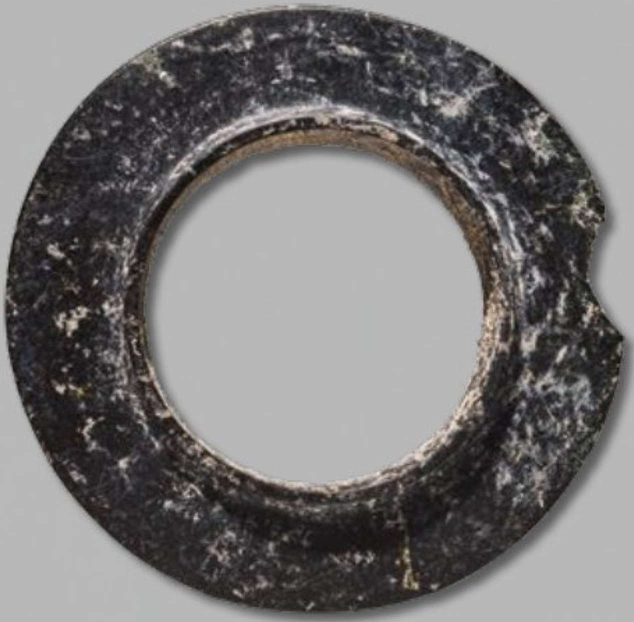
152
Diameter 14.1 cm
直徑 14.1 厘米

153-156
FOUR COLLARED RINGS
四有領玉環

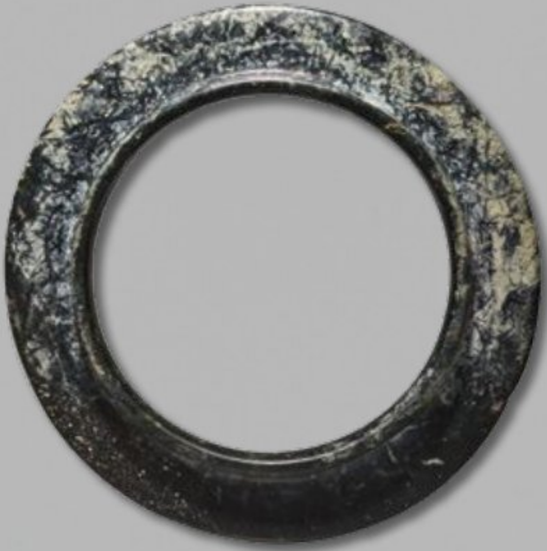
Collared rings owe their name to the fact that the border of the central perforation extends to both sides, thus creating a ridge or collar. They form a particular category in the jade repertory of ancient China, mostly attested [redacted]

[redacted]

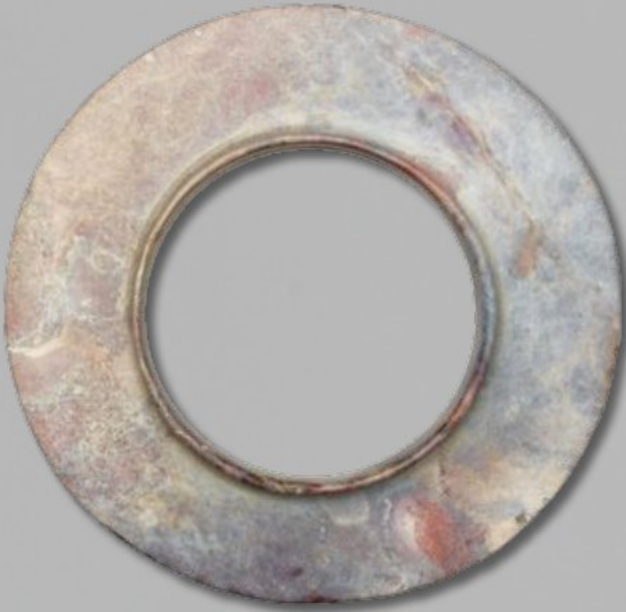
[redacted]



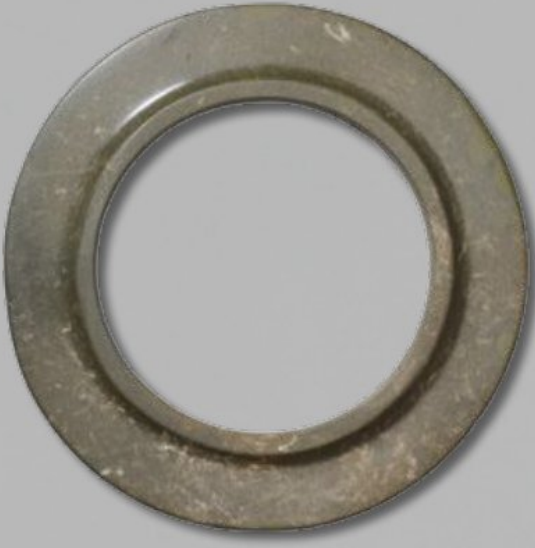
153
Diameter 9.1 - Height 1.3 cm
直徑 9.1 厘米 - 高 1.3 厘米



154
Diameter 8 - Height 1.1 cm
直徑 8 厘米 - 高 1.1 厘米



155
Diameter 10.2 - Height 2.3 cm
直徑 10.2 厘米 - 高 2.3 厘米



156
Diameter 8.4 - Height 1 cm
直徑 8.4 厘米 - 高 1 厘米

157
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A DOUBLE *GE*
雙聯戈形玉佩

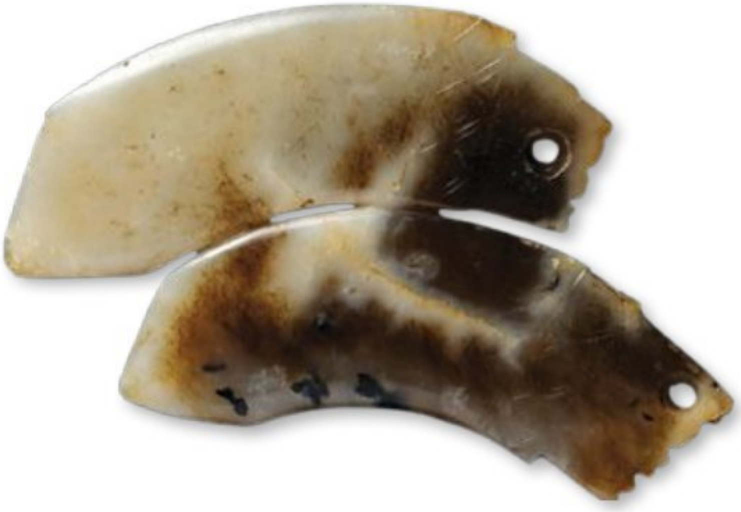
158
GE BLADE
玉戈

As stated in the introduction to this section (page 128), most of the late Shang and Western Zhou jades are small carvings, often in the form of animals or modelled as miniature versions of larger [redacted]

[redacted]

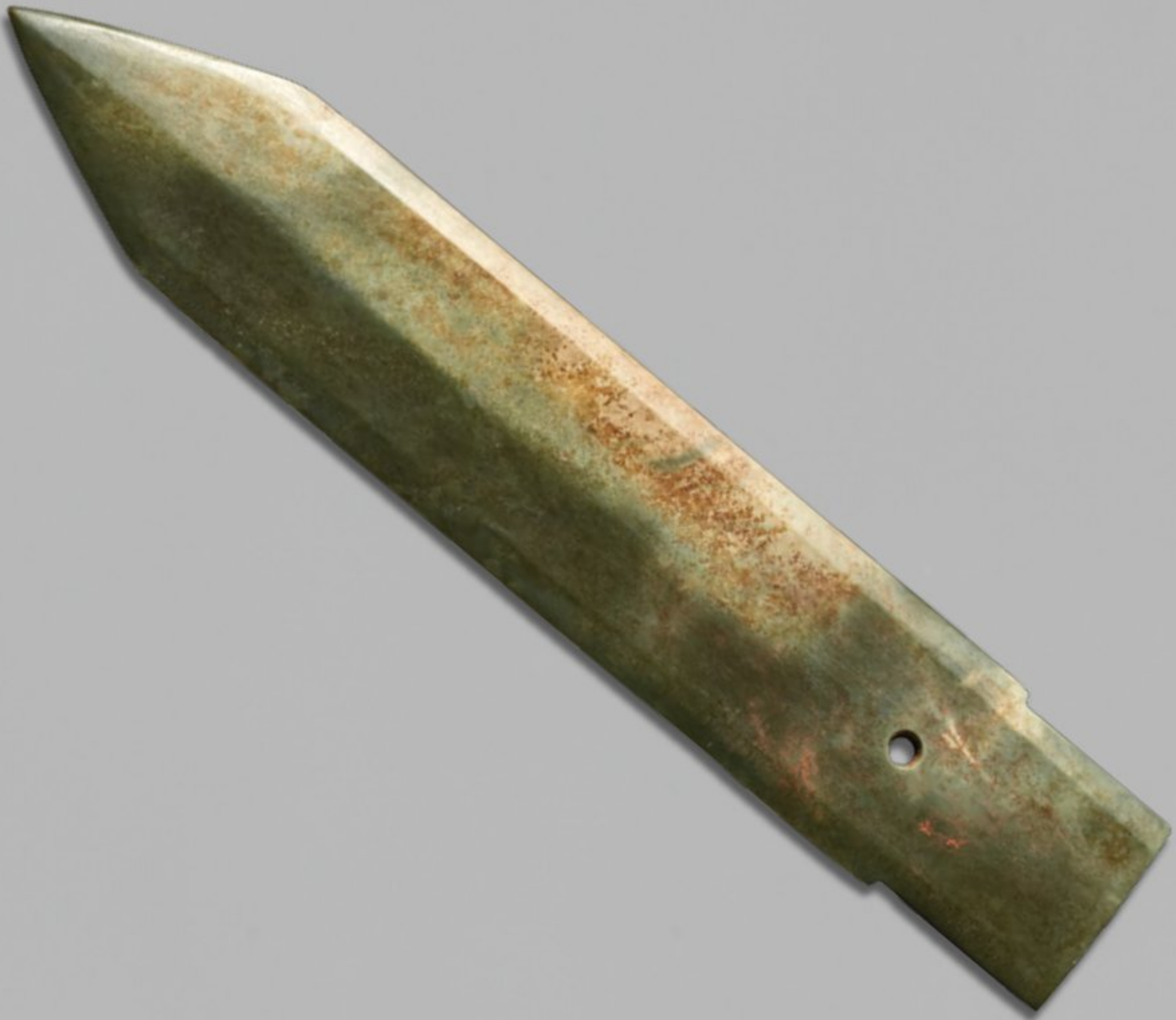
[redacted]

[redacted]



157
Length 6.6 cm
長 6.6 厘米

[redacted]



158
Length 13.1 cm
長 13.1 厘米

LATE SHANG, 13TH - 11TH CENTURY BC
商代晚期, 公元前13世紀-前11世紀

159
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A *GE* WITH BIRD MOTIF
戈形鳥紋玉佩

160
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT
龍形玉佩

The two pendants here introduce the group of Shang and Zhou animal-shaped jade-carvings and are examples of late Shang jades that were re-worked from existing fragments of rings.

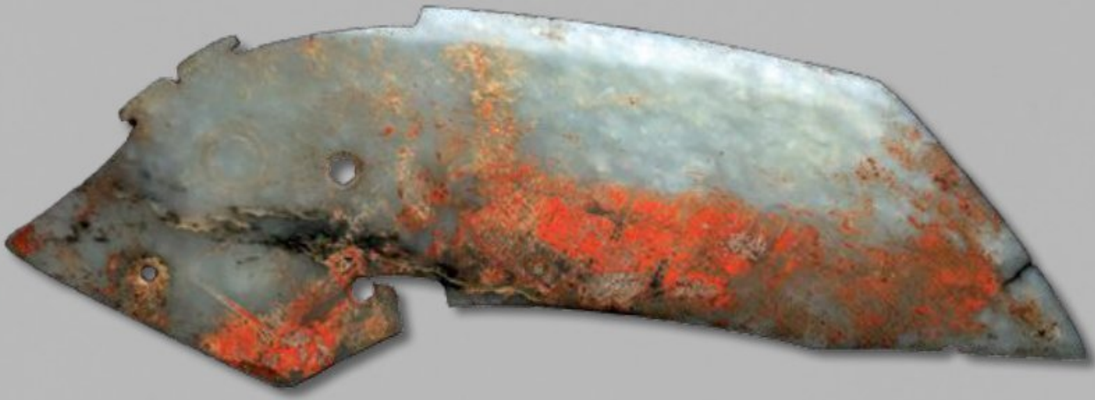
Similar to no.157, pendant no.159 is also shaped as a slightly curved *ge* 戈, with bevelled sides, a central rib and a [redacted]

[redacted]

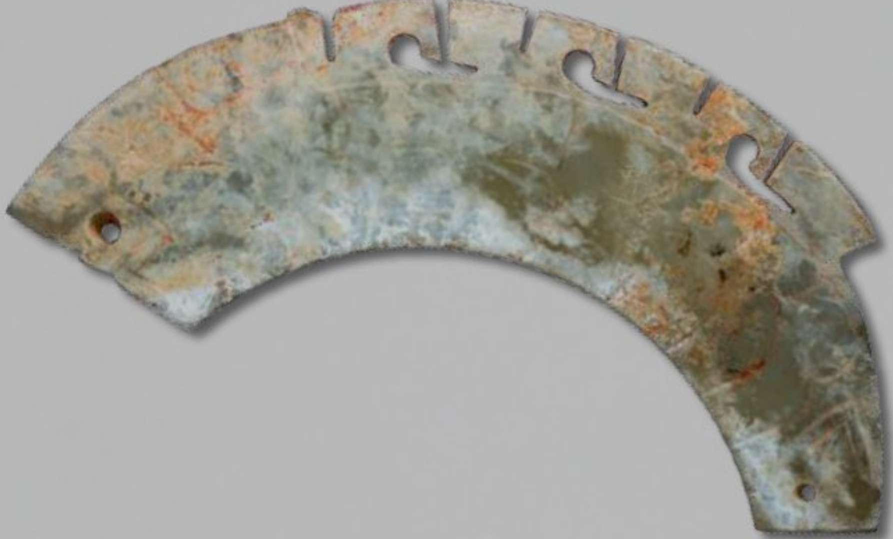
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



159
Length 13.8 cm
長 13.8 厘米



160
Length 9.1 cm
長 9.1 厘米

161
BIRD-SHAPED PENDANT
鳥形玉佩

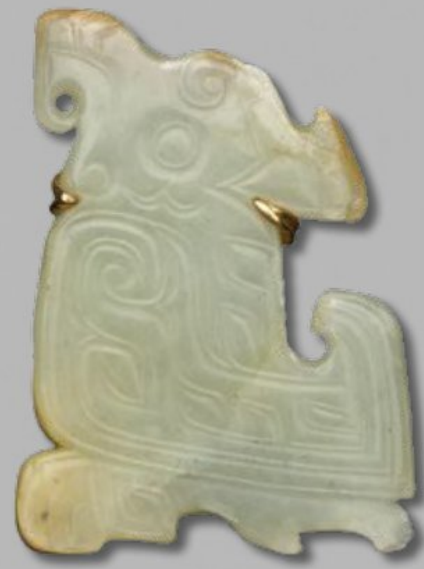
162
BIRD WITH DOUBLE *GE*-SHAPED CREST
鳥形雙援戈玉器

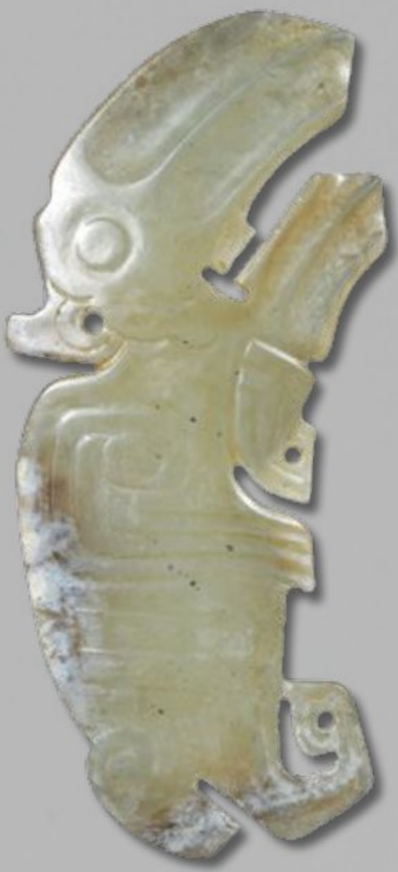
Bird-shaped carvings like the two shown here were very popular at the end of the Shang dynasty, as attested by the numerous examples which have been discovered in the tomb of Fu Hao (c.1200 BC). Pendant no.161 is carved from a pale green, translucent jade and [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





161
Width 4.3 cm
寬 4.3 厘米

162
Length 6.2 cm
長 6.2 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 11TH - 10TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前11世紀–前10世紀

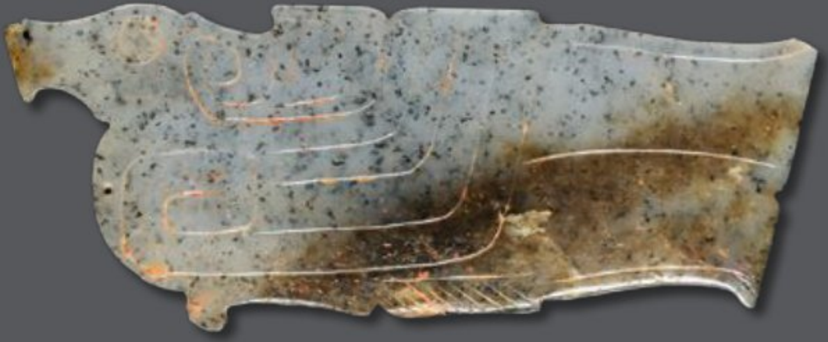
163-164
TWO JADE BIRDS
兩玉鳥

From about the 10th century BC, birds became quite popular in Western Zhou art: on ritual bronzes, phoenix-like birds with long crests and tails eventually replaced the *taotie* 饕餮 mask motif, which was the dominant [redacted]

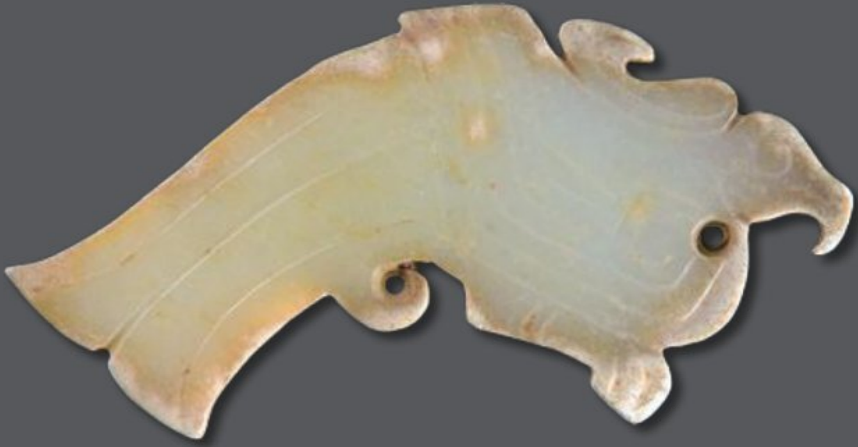
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



163
Length 8.4 cm
長 8.4 厘米



164
Length 9.8 cm
長 9.8 厘米

165-167

THREE JADE HARES

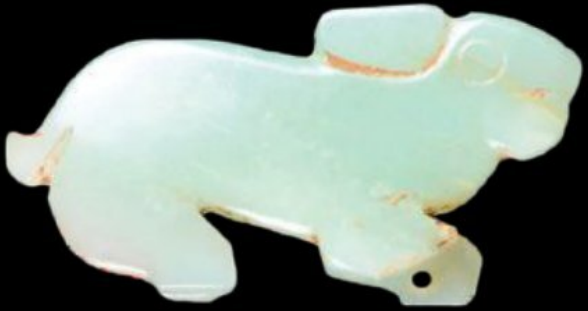
三玉兔

The hare is another popular animal which was carved in jade during the late Shang and early Western Zhou periods: it is usually represented in a squatting position with long flattened ears, as in the three small carvings presented here. [redacted]

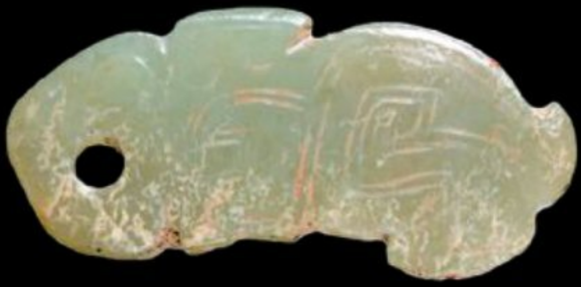
[redacted]

[redacted]

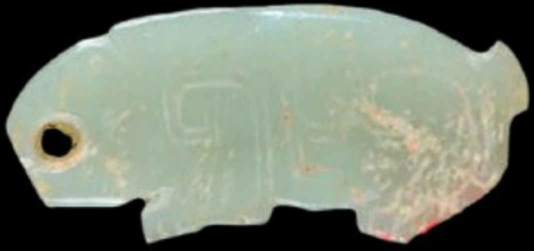
[redacted]



165
Length 7.3 cm
長 7.3 厘米



166
Length 4.3 cm
長 4.3 厘米



167
Length 4.3 cm
長 4.3 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 11TH - 10TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前11世紀–前10世紀

168-171
FOUR JADE FISH
四玉魚

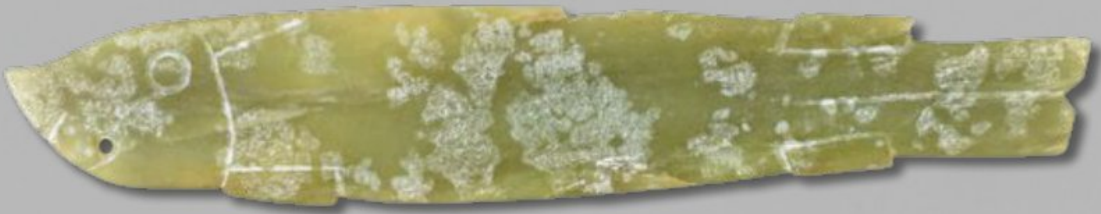
Fish-shaped jades represent the most common category of small animal carvings that were made during the late Shang and early Western Zhou periods. This popularity possibly derived from positive symbolism [redacted]

[redacted]

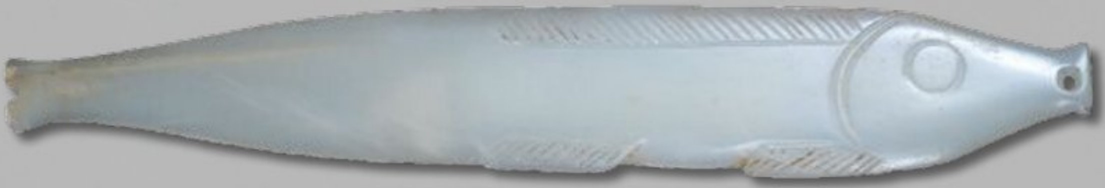
[redacted]

[redacted]

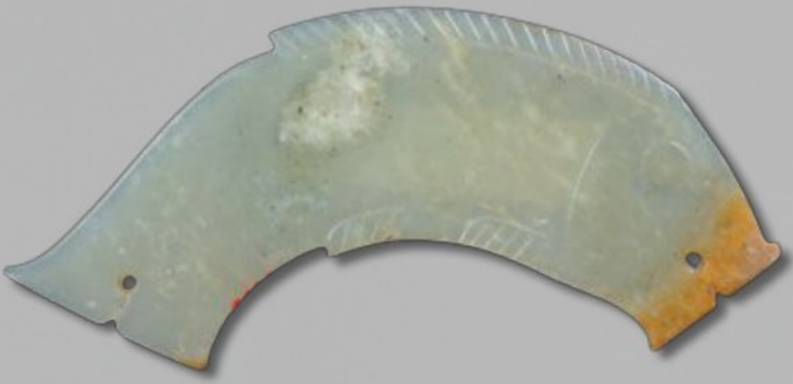
[redacted]



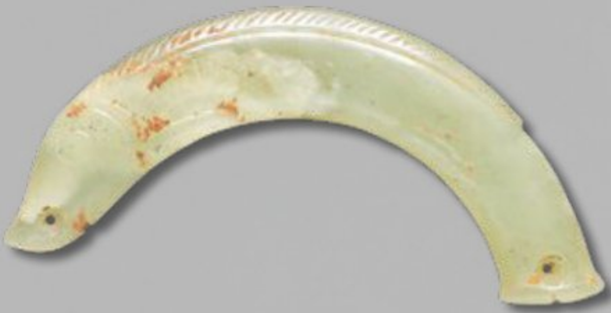
168
Length 13.1 cm
長 13.1 厘米



169
Length 13 cm
長 13 厘米



170
Length 9.4 cm
長 9.4 厘米



171
Length 6.5 cm
長 6.5 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀

172
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A CORMORANT
魚鷹形玉佩

173-174
TWO PENDANTS IN THE SHAPE OF A STAG OR DEER
兩鹿形玉佩

The Chinese trained cormorants to capture fish in lakes, ponds and rivers since the Neolithic period, as documented by a Yangshao culture pottery jar (c. 3500-3000 BC), unearthed in 1978 at Yancun, Linru, Henan province, painted with a cormorant holding a [redacted]

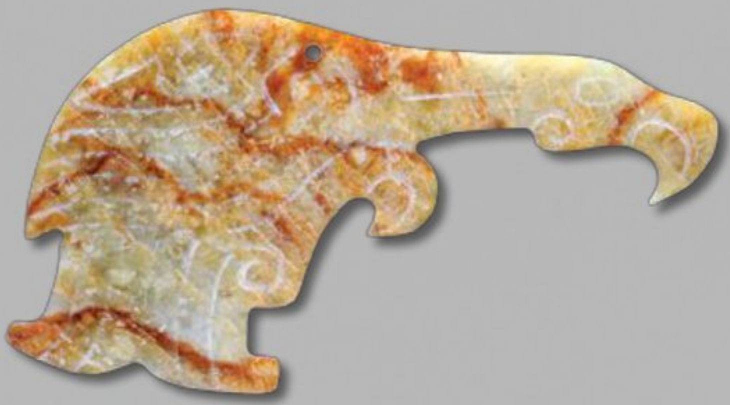
[redacted]

[redacted]

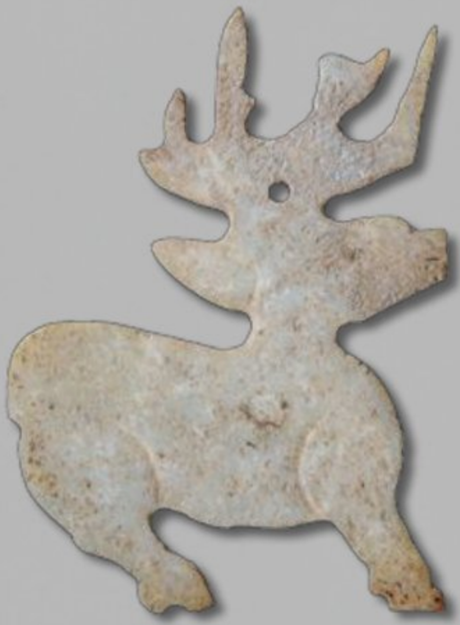
[redacted]

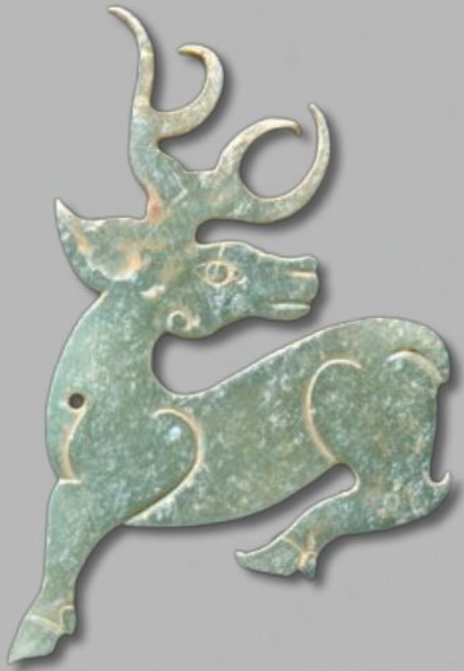
[redacted]

[redacted]



172
Length 7 cm
長 7 厘米





173
Height 7.1 cm
高 7.1 厘米

174
Height 6.4 cm
高 6.4 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH-9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀–前9世紀

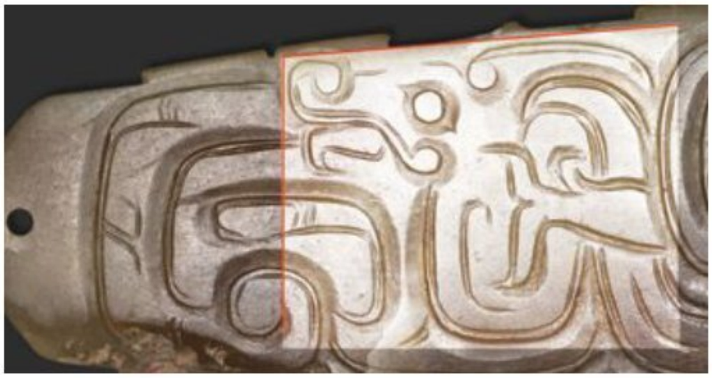
175
PENDANT WITH BIRD AND DRAGON DESIGN
鳳龍紋玉佩

176
PENDANT DECORATED WITH A BIRD
鳳紋玉佩

Images of long-tailed, crested birds represented in profile, such as those incised on these two pendants with indented borders and on the slit-ring in no.149 (in the introduction to this section, p.32), make their appearance in the jade repertory of motifs around the 10th century BC, during the middle Western Zhou, when similar phoenix-like birds were also cast on bronze ritual vessels.[1] The birds on [redacted]

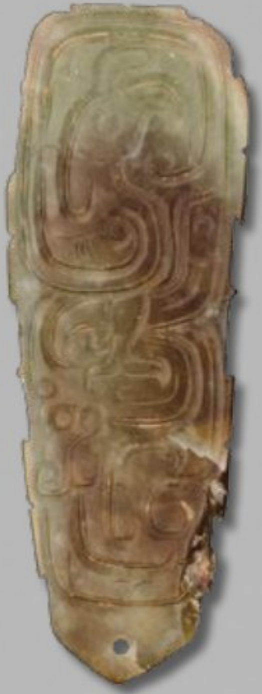
[redacted]

[redacted]

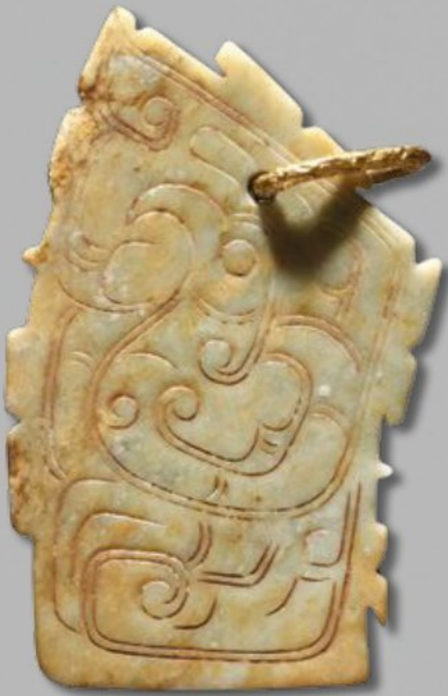


Detail of the stylized coiled dragon carved below the standing bird on no.175.

[redacted]



175
Length 7.3 cm
長 7.3 厘米



176
Length 7.6 cm
長 7.6 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH-9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀–前9世紀

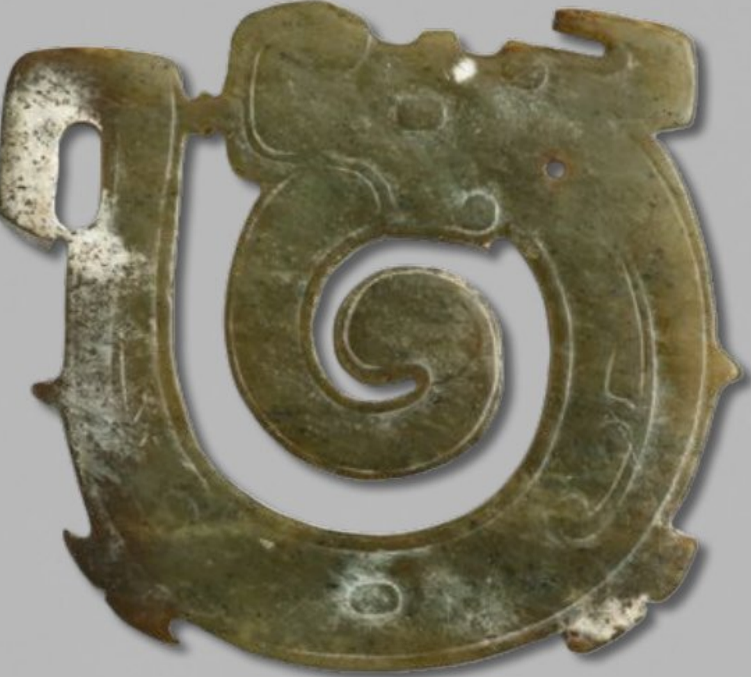
177
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A COILED DRAGON
蟠龍形玉佩

The shape of this jade, carved as a coiled dragon, is derived from similar late Shang period carvings (nos.151-152) which were in turn inspired by the jade coiled dragons of the Hongshan culture (nos.8-13). However, while the Hongshan coiled dragons were [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



177
Height 6.3 cm
高 6.3 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH-9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀–前9世紀

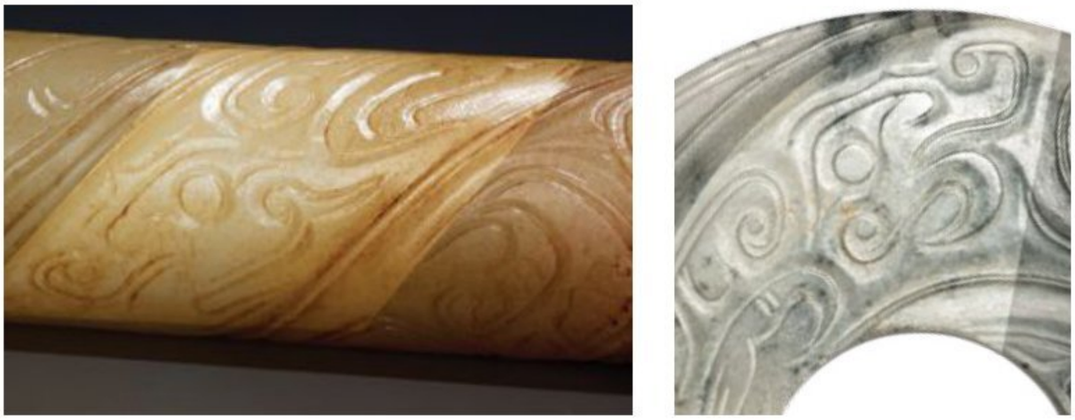
178
TUBULAR BEAD WITH *KUI*-DRAGON DESIGN
夔龍紋玉管

179
DISC WITH *KUI*-DRAGON DESIGN
夔龍紋玉璧

These two extremely refined jades are further examples of the style that was prevalent during the middle and late Western Zhou and are both decorated with the same motif: a pair of dragons in profile carved within two parallel, spiralling bands. Dragons with elongated bodies are often seen on small ornaments of the Western [redacted]

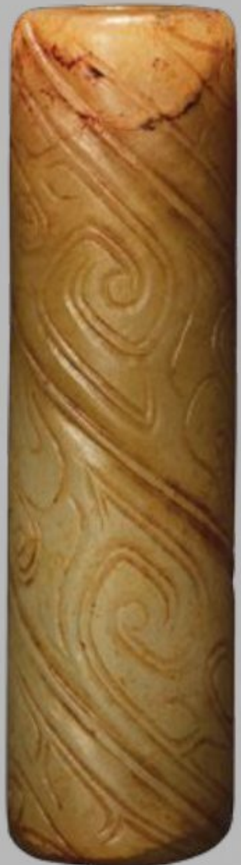
[redacted]

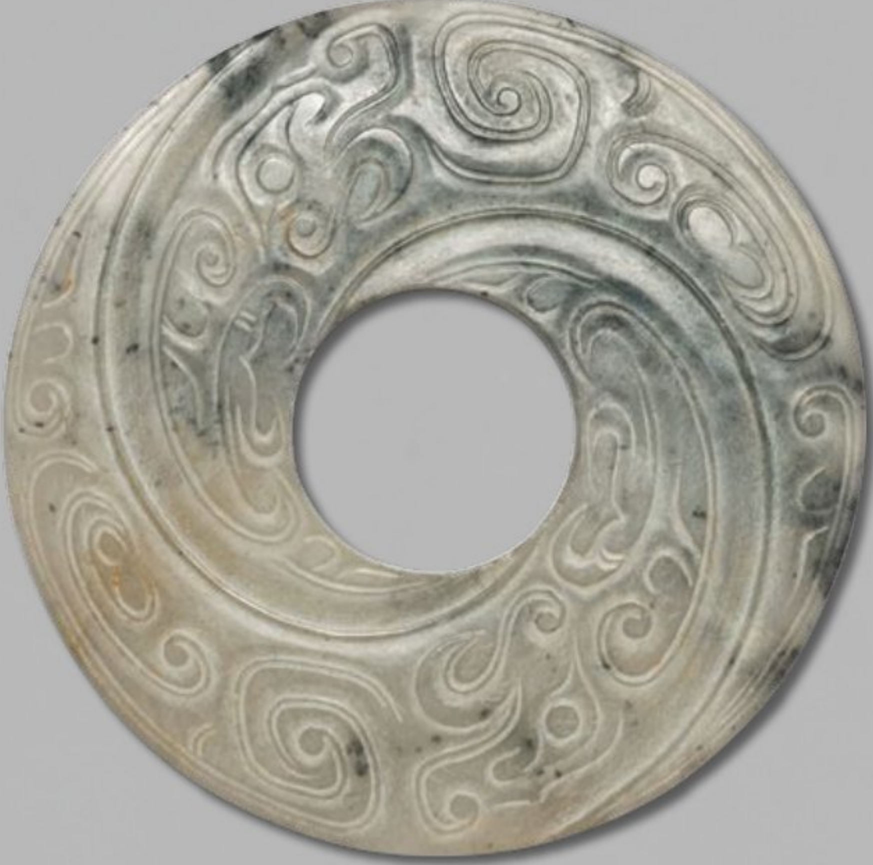
[redacted]



Details of the dragons carved on the bead no.178 and ring no.179.

[redacted]





178
Length 7 cm
長 7 厘米

179
Diameter 7.9 cm
直径 7.9 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH-9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀–前9世紀

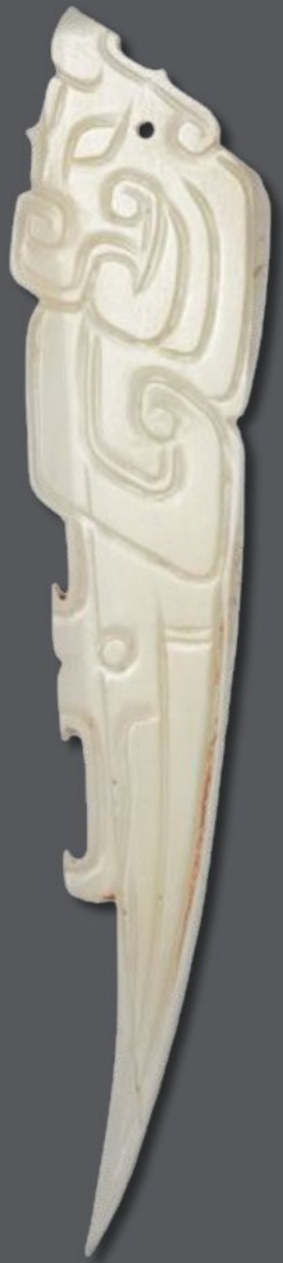
180
DRAGON-SHAPED *XI*
龍形玉觿

This pendant, carved in the shape of a dragon whose long body terminates in an acuminated tail, belongs to a type of jades traditionally known as *xi* 觿, or 'knot-openers', though their actual use is unclear. The *xi*, always provided with [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



180
Length 9.8 cm
長 9.8 厘米

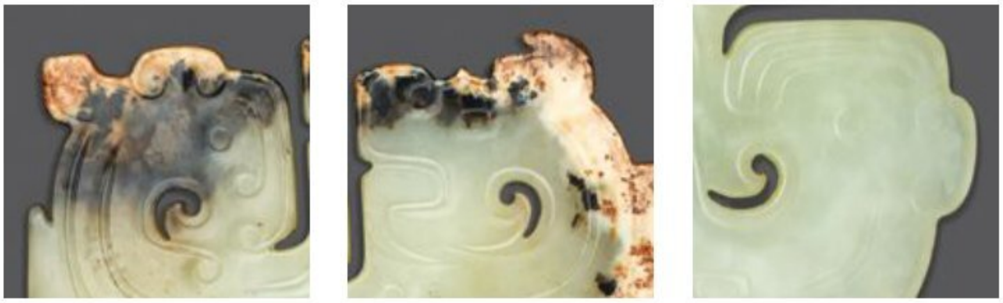
181
ORNAMENT WITH DRAGON, BIRD AND HUMAN HEADS MOTIF
龍鳳人頭紋玉飾

The decoration of the last three Western Zhou jades featured in this section is characterized by the presence of stylized human heads, either interspersed with other elements of the design, as on this jade and the *huang* 璜 pendant no.183, or as the sole decorative motif (no.182). The occasional and [redacted]

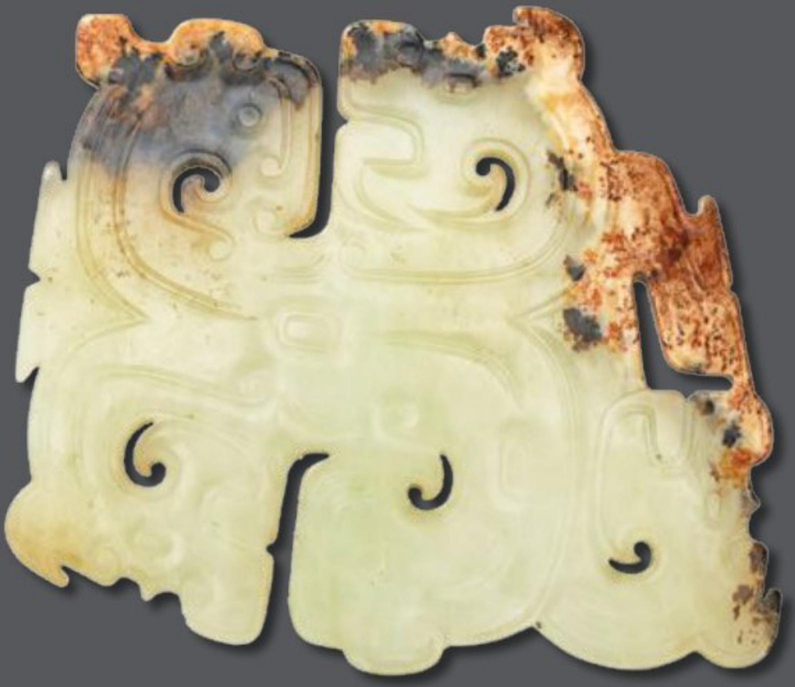
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]


From the left: details of the bird, dragon and human motifs carved on no.181.

[redacted]



181
Width 8.4 cm
寬 8.4 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH-9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀-前9世紀

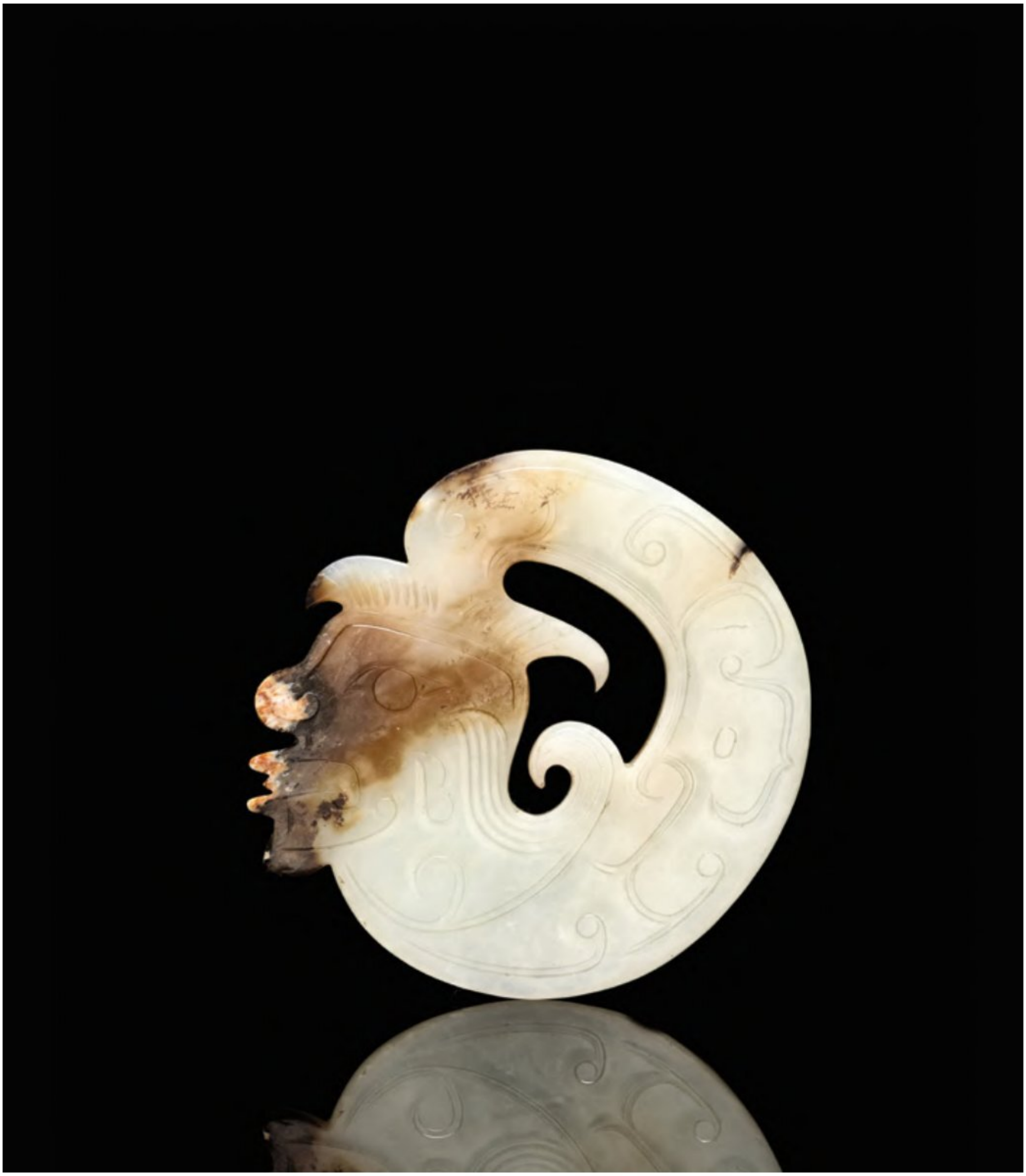
182
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A HUMAN HEAD
人頭形玉佩

This pendant, or ring, in openwork is shaped as a human head in profile with a long dragon-like body that extends from the head and forms a loop: the tip of the tail joins the hair, marked by incised, parallel lines. The [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



182
Height 8.4 cm
直徑 8.4 厘米

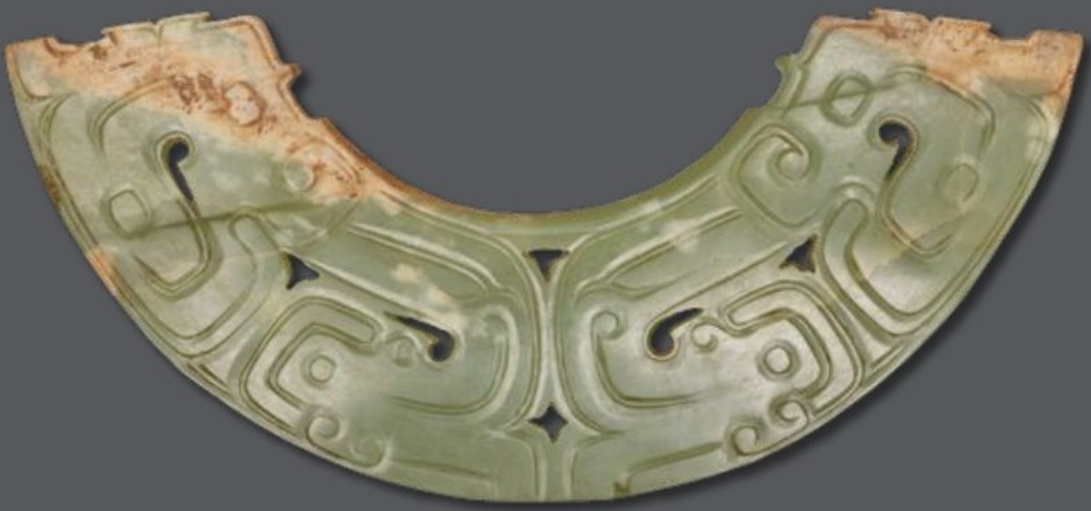
WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH-9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀–前9世紀

183
HUANG WITH DRAGONS AND HUMAN HEADS
人頭龍紋玉璜

Huang 璜 arched pendants, first created by the late Neolithic culture of the south (see nos.39 and 74), resurfaced again in the repertory of jade forms during the late Western Zhou and remained one of [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



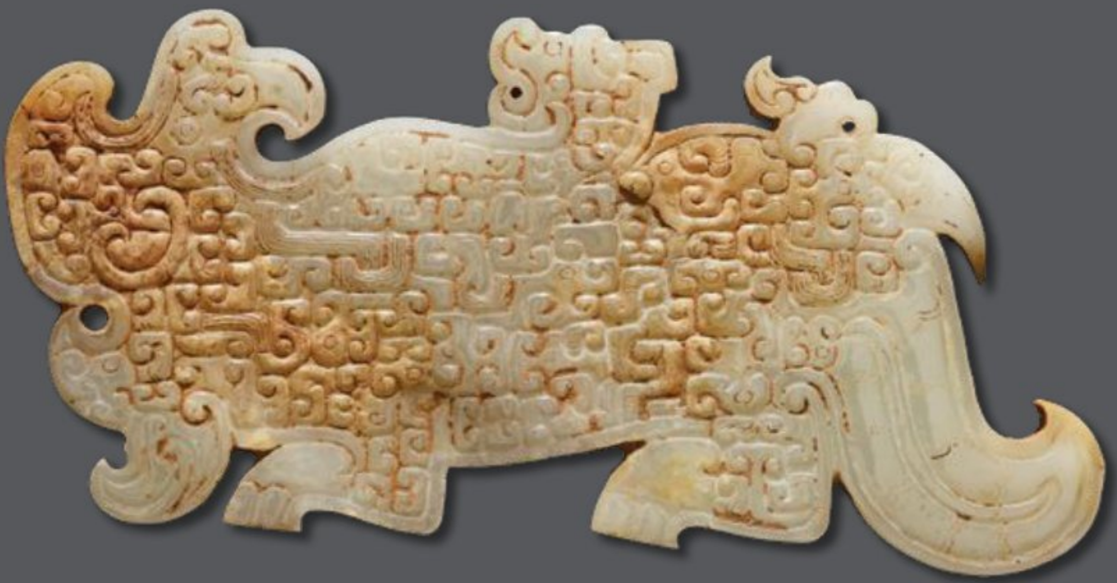
183
Width 14.3 cm
寬 14.3 厘米

ADORNMENTS FOR THE NOBLES: JADES OF THE EASTERN ZHOU PERIODS

A few centuries after the conquest of the Shang (c.1050 BC), the decentralized system of power that the Zhou had established to control their vast reign manifested its weakness. The rulers who governed the various territories of the Zhou realm, and those of the peripheral regions in [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



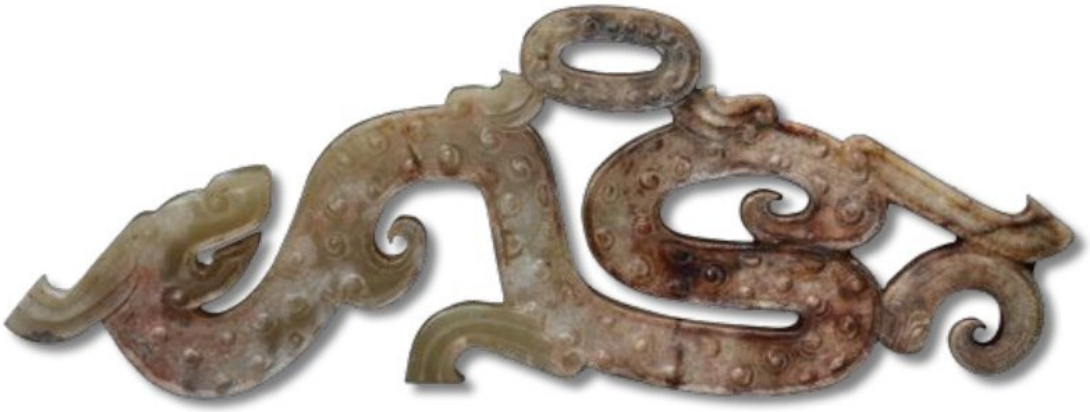
184

TIGER-SHAPED ORNAMENT

虎形玉飾

Length 13.9 cm

長 13.9 厘米



185

DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT IN OPENWORK

鏤空龍形玉佩

EASTERN ZHOU, 5TH-4TH CENTURY BC

東周, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

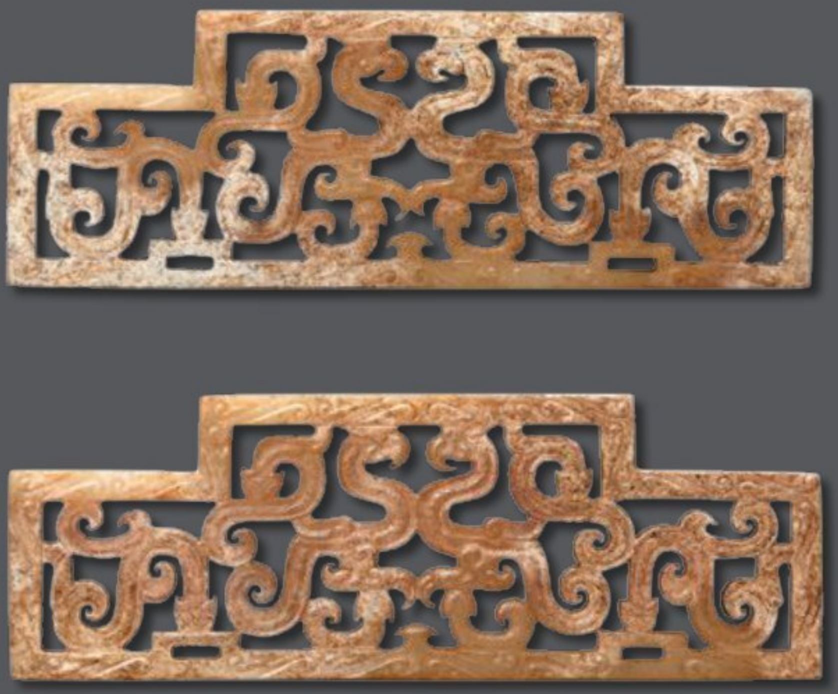
Length 15.4 cm

長 15.4 厘米

[redacted]

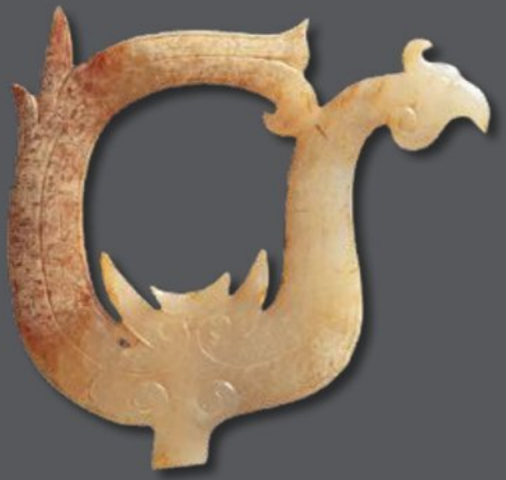
[redacted]

[redacted]



186

PAIR OF OPENWORK JADES WITH PATTERN OF PHOENIXES AND SNAKES
雙鏤空鳳蛇紋玉飾
Length 11.5 cm
長 11.5 厘米



187

ORNAMENT IN THE SHAPE OF A PHOENIX
鳳形玉飾
Height 6.7 cm
高 6.7 厘米

188-189

FOUR *HUANG* WITH DRAGONS

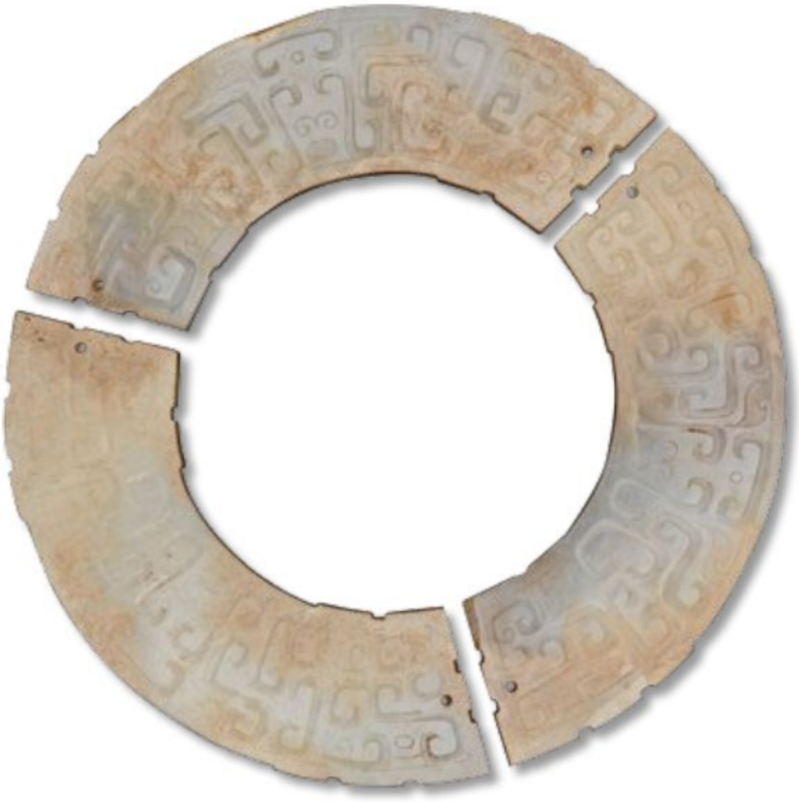
四龍頭玉璜

By the end of the Western Zhou, arc-shaped jades known as *huang* 璜 had become one of the most common types of ornaments, as documented by the large quantity found in the richly furnished tombs of the Guo and Jin state rulers at Shangcunling, Sanmenxia, Henan, and Tianma-Qucun, Quwo, Shanxi. In the following Eastern Zhou, the *huang* continued to be one [redacted]

[redacted]

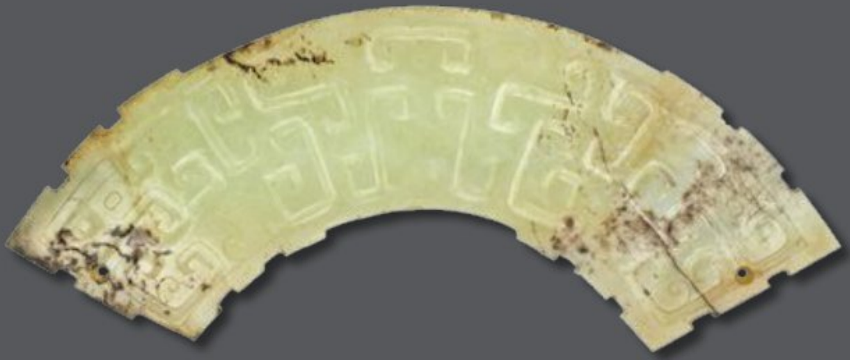
[redacted]

[redacted]

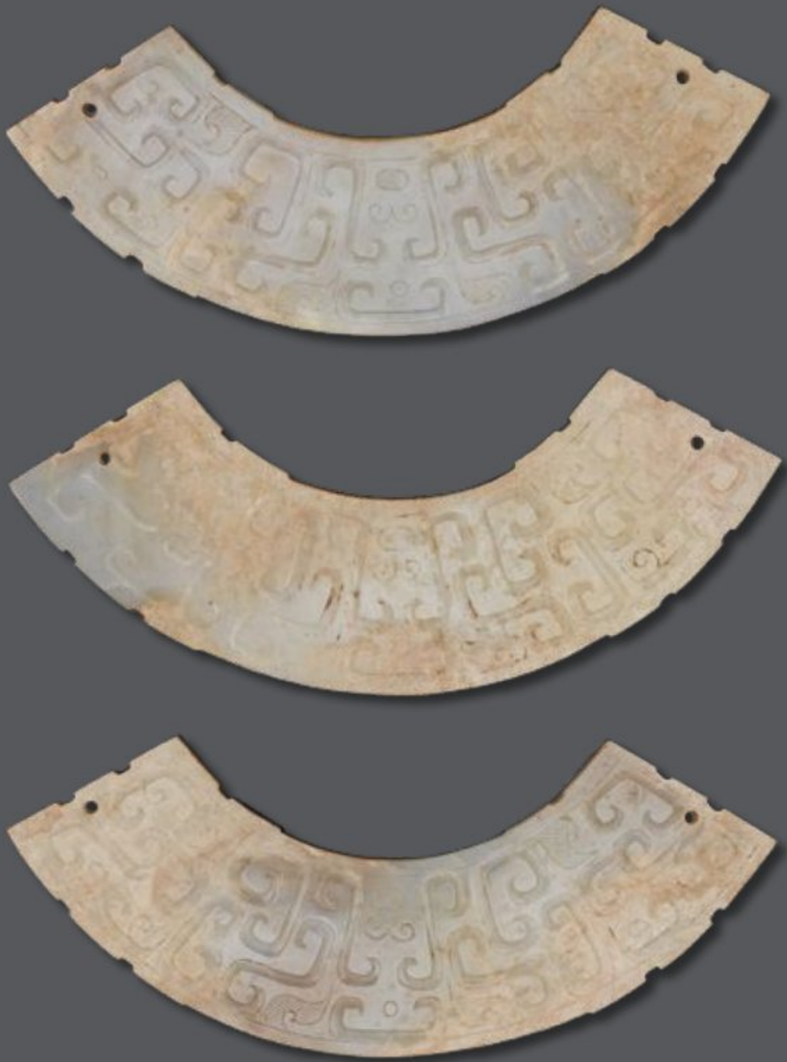


189
Diameter 15.3 cm
直徑 15.3 厘米

[redacted]



188
Width 15.5 cm
寬 15.5 厘米



189
Width 14.3 cm
寬 14.3 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

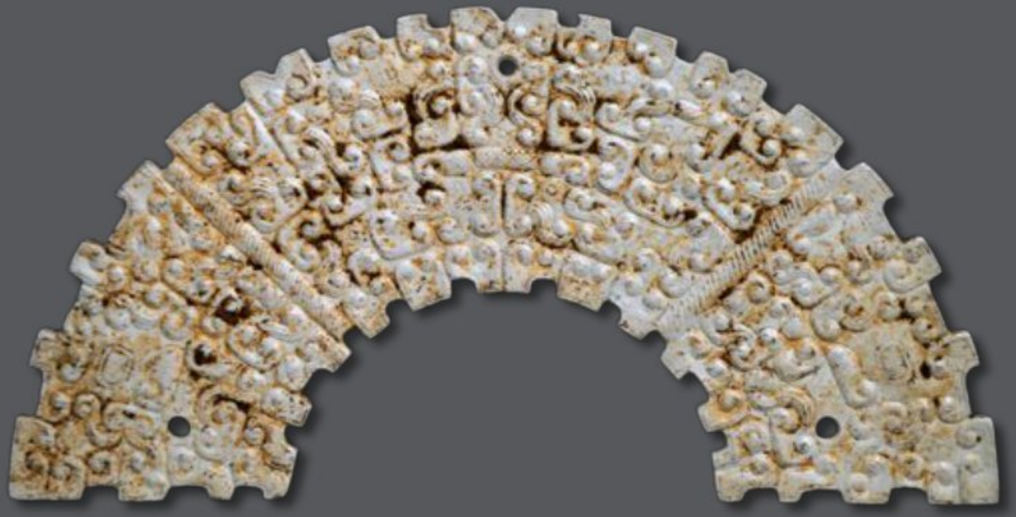
190-191
TWO *HUANG* WITH PATTERNS OF 'SWARMING SNAKES' (*PANHUI*) AND CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS (*JUANYUN*)
兩蟠虺紋, 卷雲紋玉璜

These two *huang* 璜 and the following jades (until no.209) offer a number of examples of the type of decoration, known as *panhui* 蟠虺, which was current during the Spring and Autumn period in the 6th and 5th century BC. The design consists of small, [redacted]

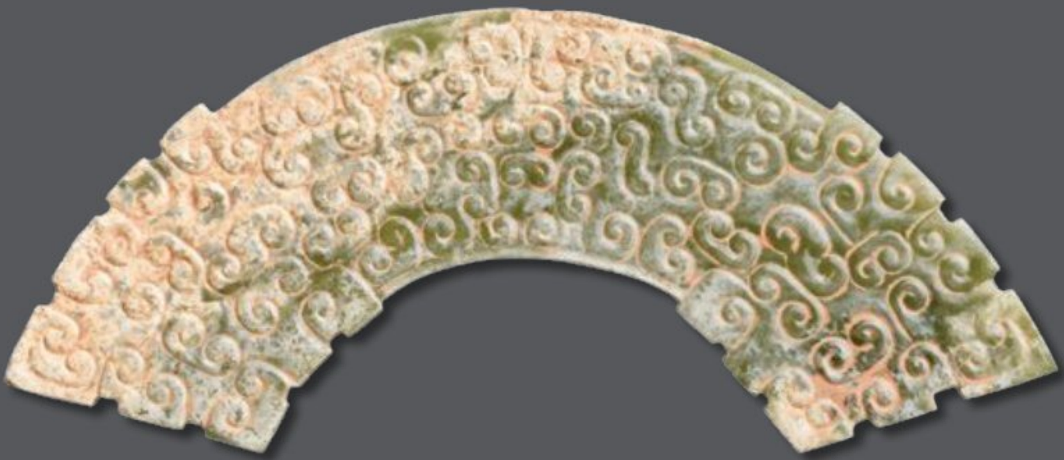
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



190
Width 11.6 cm
寬 11.6 厘米



191
Width 13.6 cm
寬 13.6 厘米

192
THREE *HUANG* WITH PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
三卷雲紋玉璜

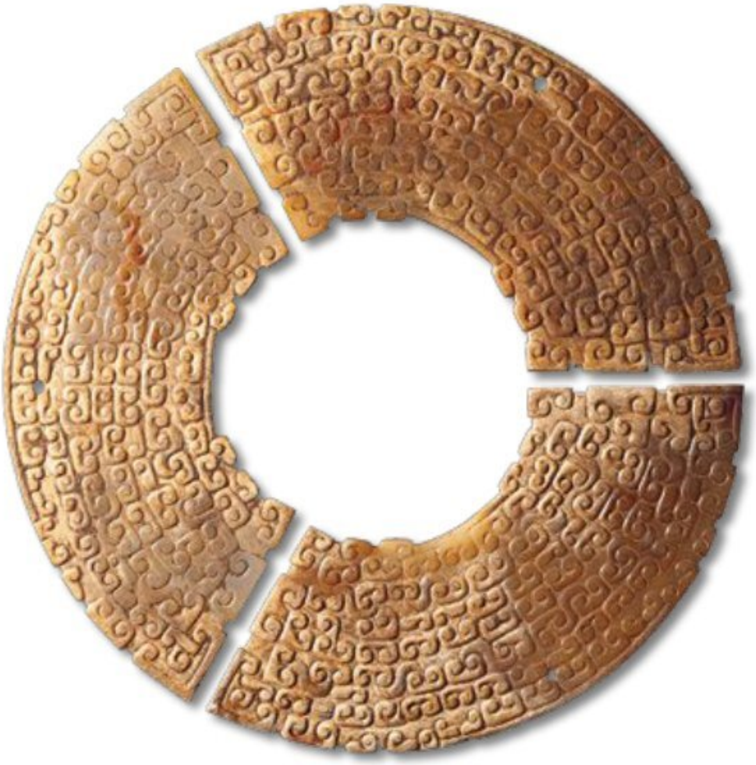
193
DISC WITH PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
卷雲紋玉璧

This set of three *huang* 璜 and disc no.193 have a lens-shaped profile with thick centres and thinner edges, a feature shared by other Eastern Zhou jades presented [redacted]

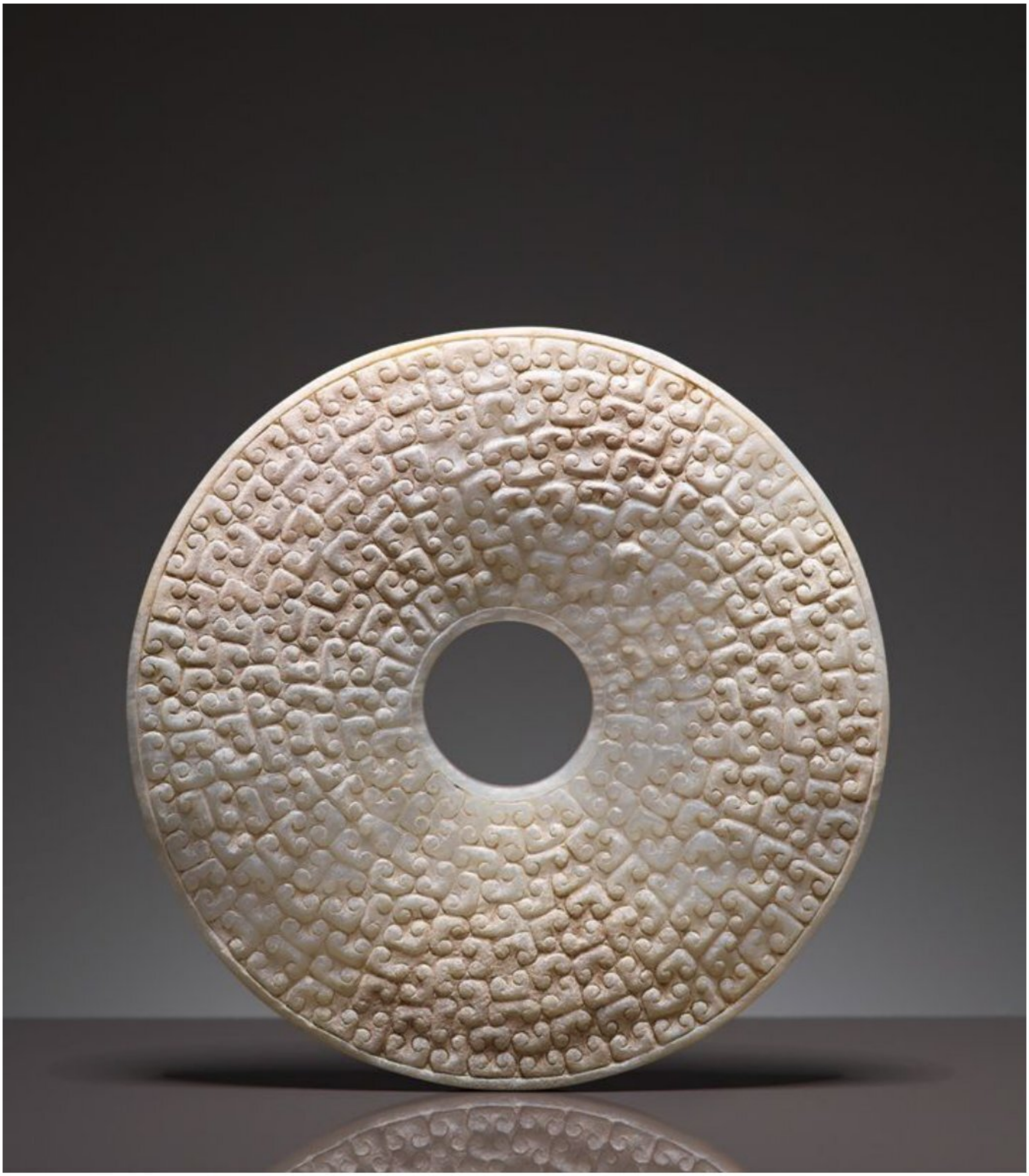
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



192
Diameter 14 cm
直徑 14 厘米



193
Diameter 14 cm
直徑 14 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

194
TIGER-SHAPED PENDANT WITH PATTERN OF ‘SWARMING SNAKES’, *PANHUI*
蟠虺紋虎形玉佩

195
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT WITH PATTERN OF ‘SWARMING SNAKES’, *PANHUI*
蟠虺紋龍形玉佩

Two animals that were frequently carved on Eastern Zhou jades are the tiger and the dragon, as shown by these two 6th-5th century BC examples decorated with the usual pattern of curls in low relief. Jade pendants carved in the shape of tigers were in vogue during the Spring and Autumn period, from [redacted]

[redacted]

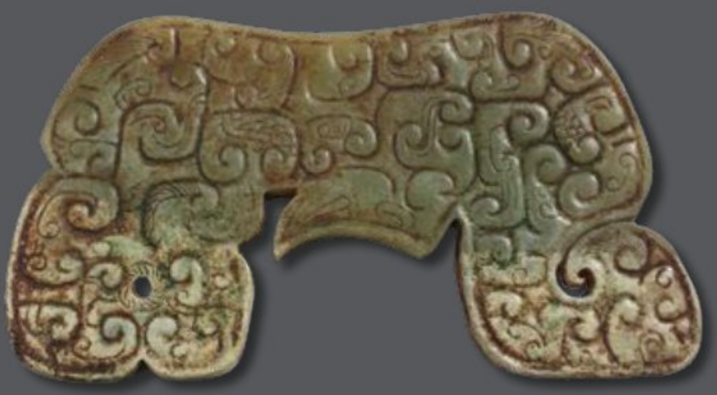
[redacted]

[redacted]

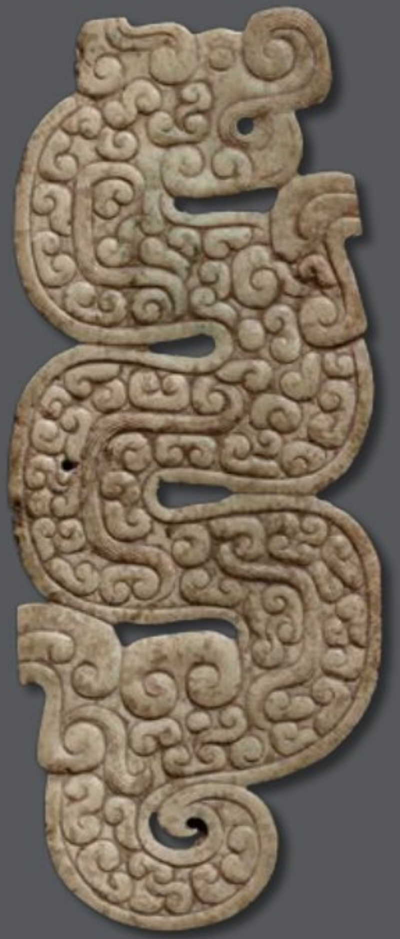
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



194
Width 7 cm
寬 7 厘米



195
Length 10.4 cm
長 10.4 厘米

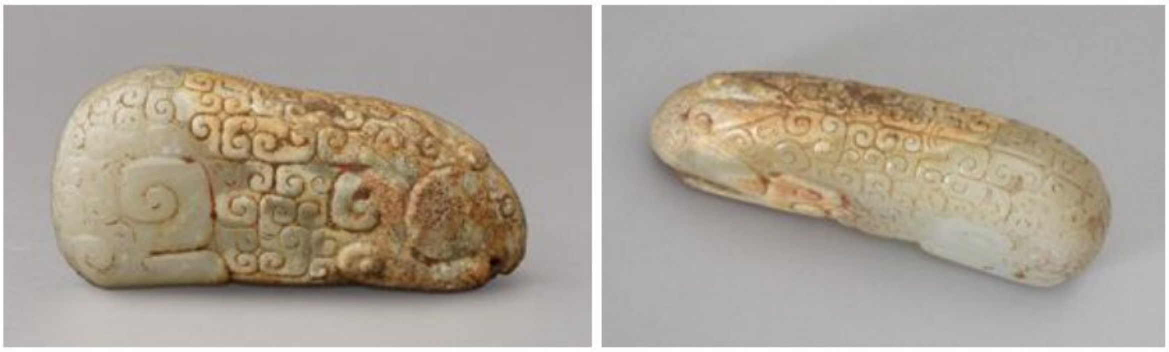
EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

196
HARE-SHAPED ORNAMENT WITH PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
卷雲紋兔形玉飾

This very thick jade, carved as a crouching animal which can firmly stand on its flat base, has an almost three-dimensional, sculptural appearance, rarely seen in Eastern Zhou jades. As indicated by the tiny hole for suspension drilled through the mouth of the animal, the jade was probably worn as a pendant: [redacted]

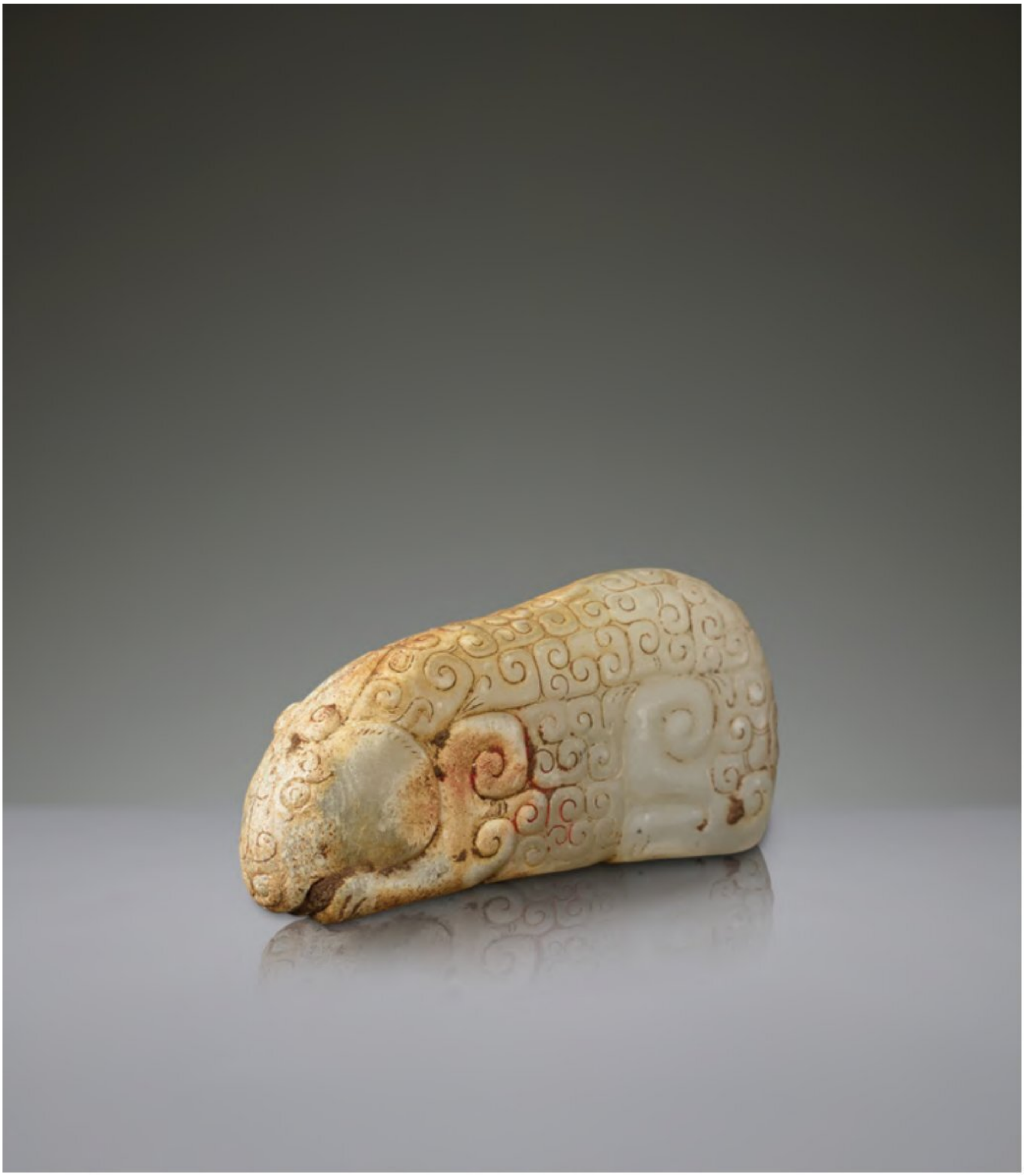
[redacted]

[redacted]



Two additional views of the hare-shaped jade no.196.

[redacted]



196
Length 8.3 cm
長 8.3 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

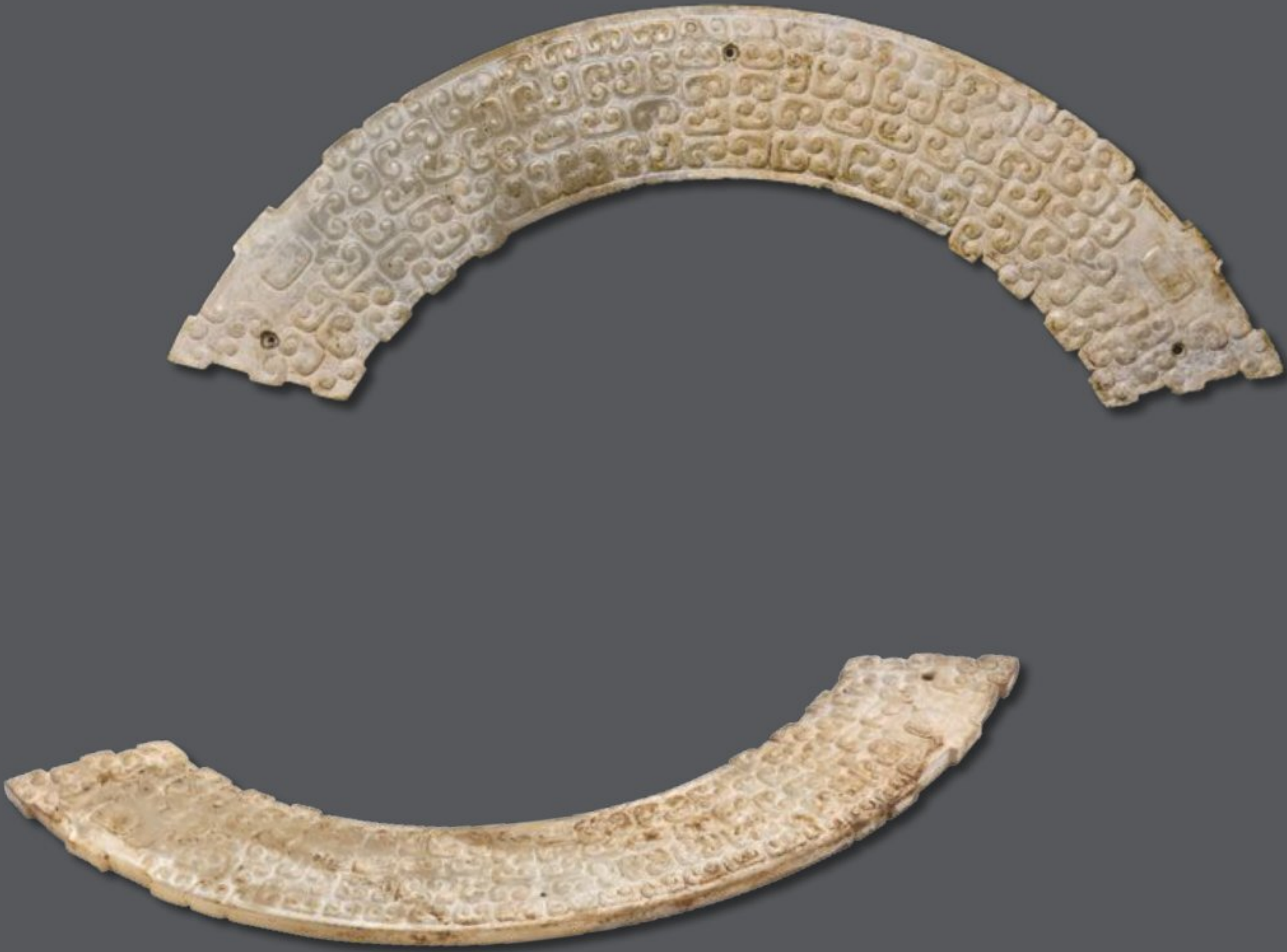
197
HUANG WITH PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
卷雲紋龍頭玉璜

This elegant, rather large and slender pendant shares some features with the set of three *huang* 璜 in no.192: the centre is thicker than the borders, producing a lens-shaped cross-section, and both sides are [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



197

Width 20.5 cm
寬 20.5 厘米
(two views)

198-201

FOUR *HUANG* WITH DRAGON HEADS AND PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*

四卷雲紋龍頭玉璜

These four arc-shaped pendants are further examples of late Spring and Autumn *huang* 璜, and despite their rather standardized form, they display some interesting details.

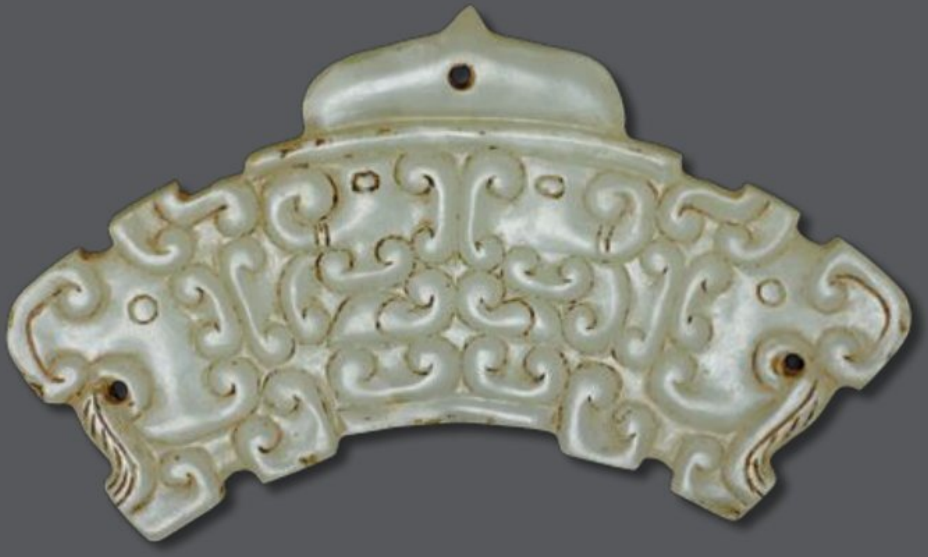
Though smaller in size, the refined pendant no.198 retains the same shape of larger *huang.* [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

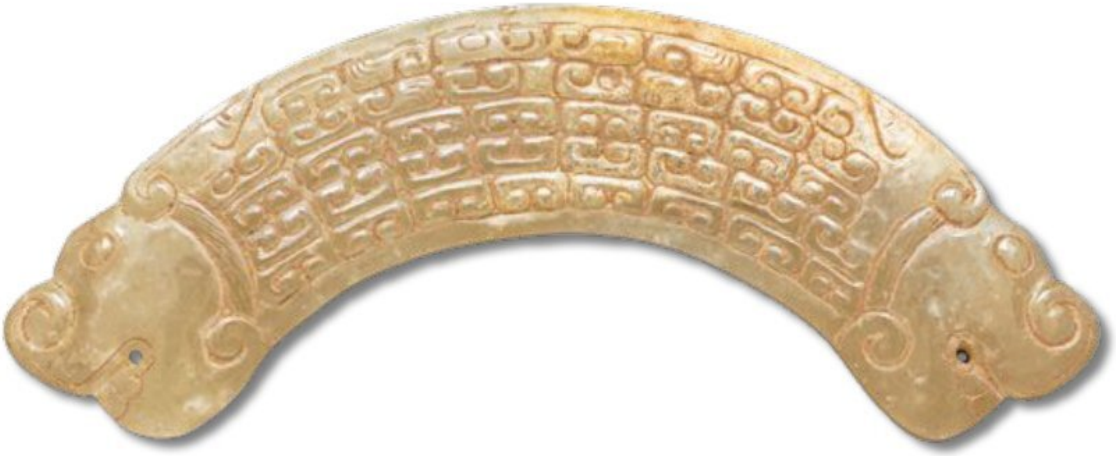
[redacted]



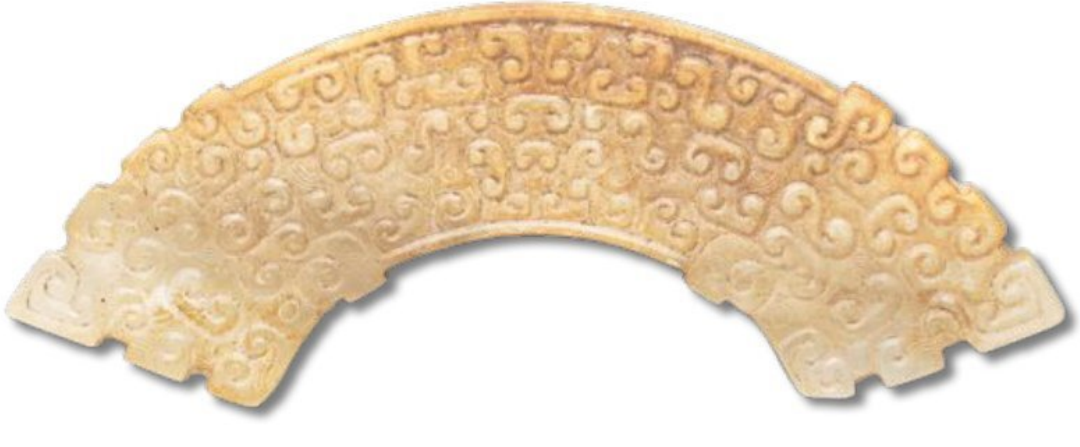
198
Width 5.6 cm
寬 5.6 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

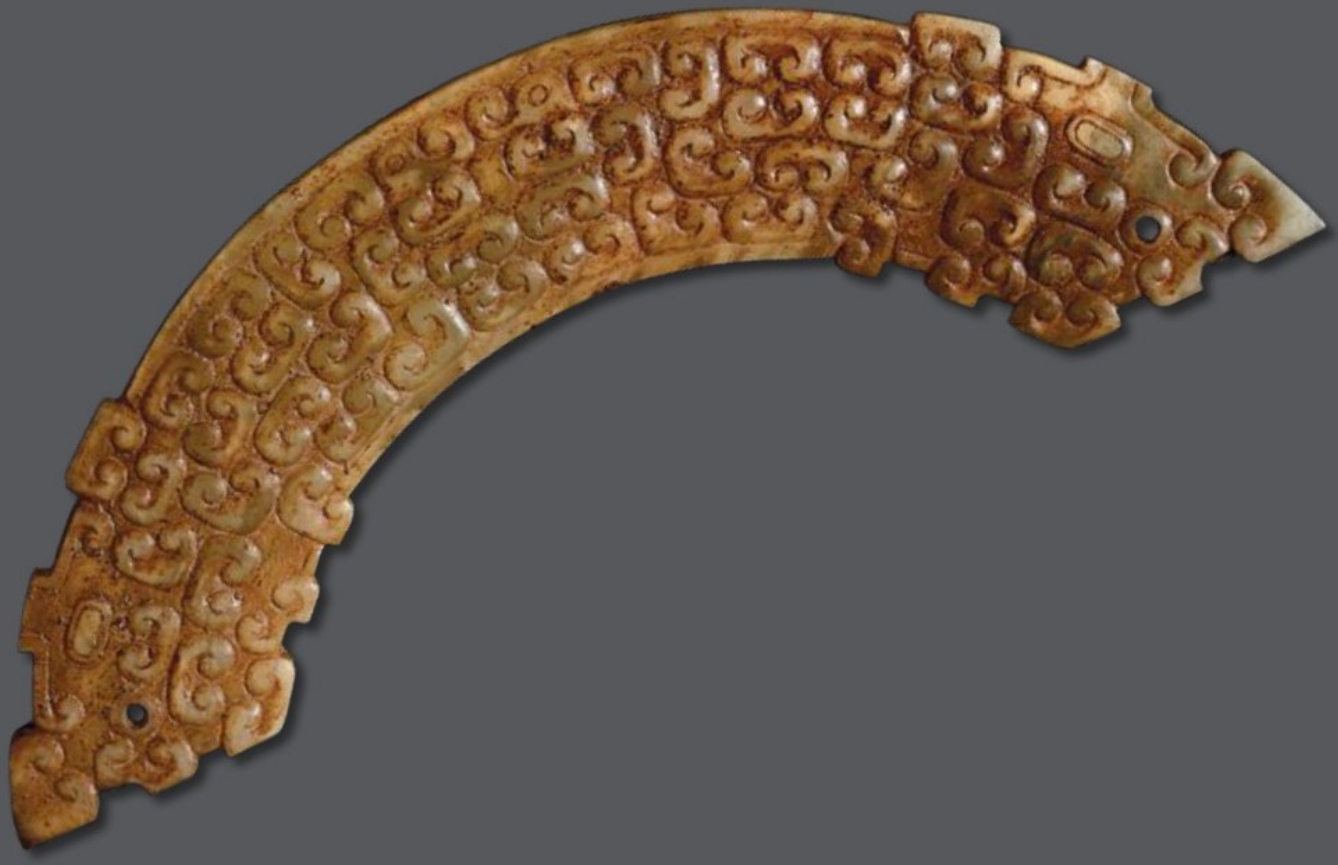
HUANG WITH DRAGON HEADS AND PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
卷雲紋龍頭玉璜



199
Width 10.5 cm
寬 10.5 厘米



200
Width 10 cm
寬 10 厘米



201
Width 12.8 cm
寬 12.8 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

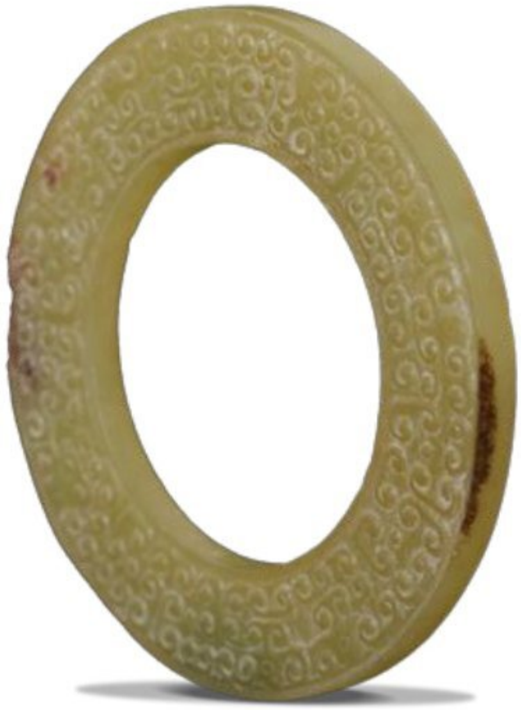
202
HUAN RING WITH DRAGON HEADS AND PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
卷雲紋龍頭玉環

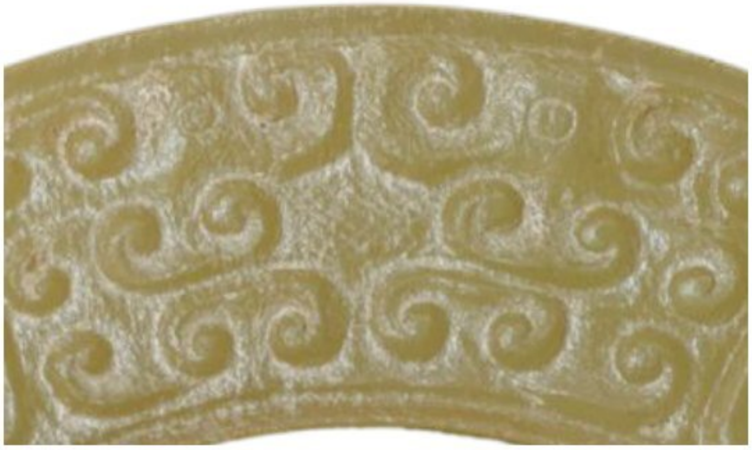
Rings of different dimensions and variously shaped beads were commonly assembled to form complex ornaments during the Western Zhou and Eastern Zhou periods. Some of them are introduced here, while another [redacted]

[redacted]

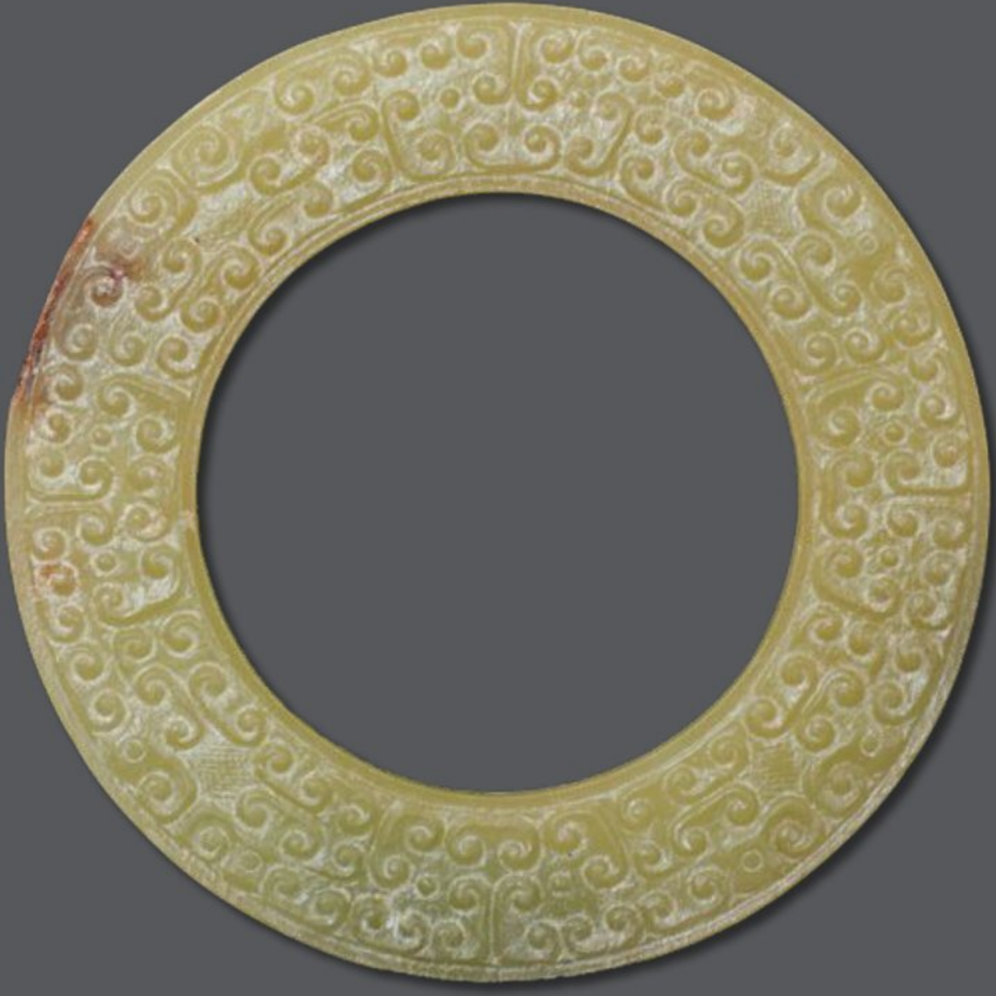
[redacted]

[redacted]





Detail of the decoration showing the confronted dragon heads.



202

Diameter 7.5 cm

直徑 7.5 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

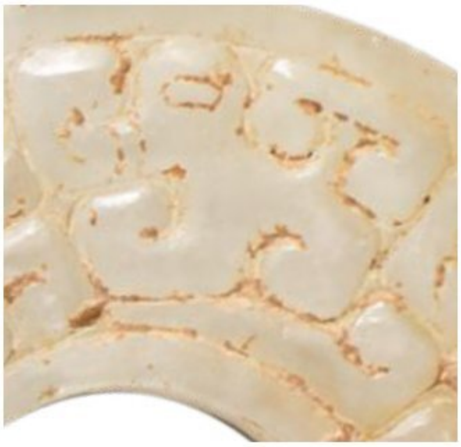
203-205
THREE SMALL DISCS WITH DRAGON HEADS AND PATTERN OF CLOUD-SHAPED CURLS, *JUANYUN*
三卷雲紋龍頭小玉璧

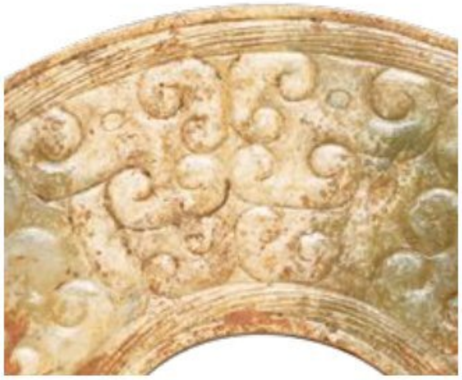
206
THREE BEADS WITH PATTERN OF RAISED CURLS
三穀紋玉墜

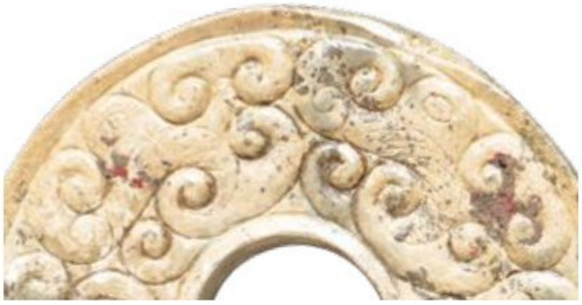
These three small rings, nos.203-205, of varying size and the three beads no.206 are all decorated with variations of the scroll and dragon pattern commonly seen on late Spring and Autumn period [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

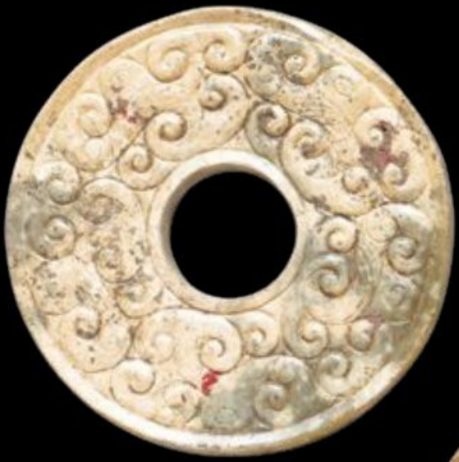

203


204

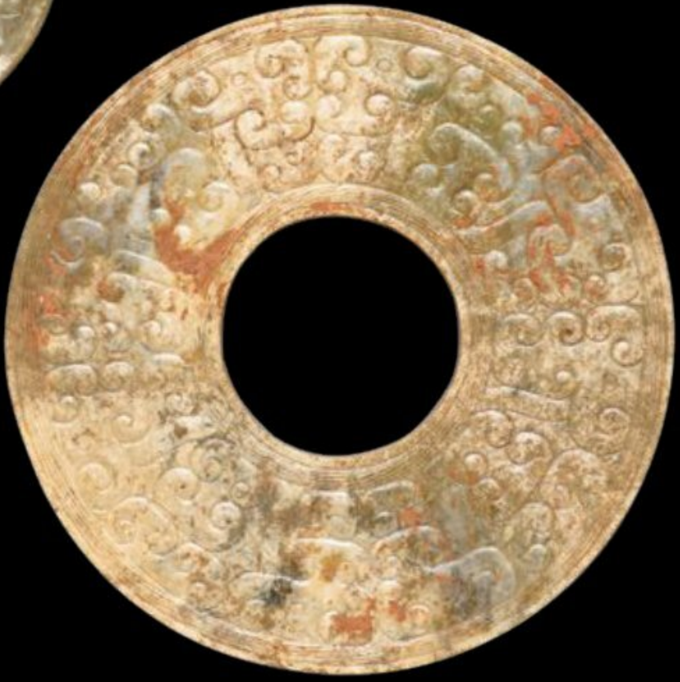

205

Details showing the dragon heads carved on the three rings nos.203-205.

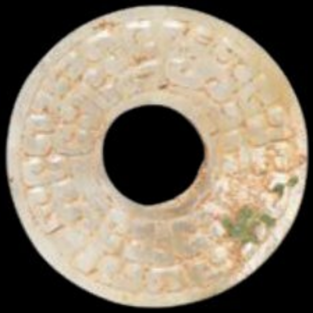
[redacted]



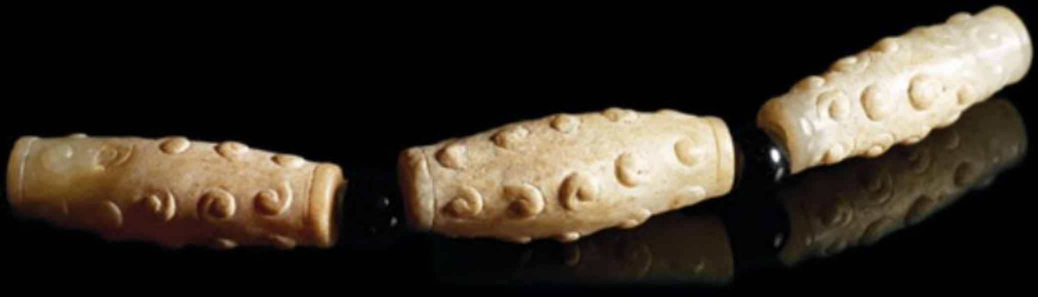
203
Diameter 5.2 cm
直徑 5.2 厘米



204
Diameter 8.3 cm
直徑 8.3 厘米



205
Diameter 3.8 cm
直徑 3.8 厘米



206
Length 3.8 cm
長 3.8 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

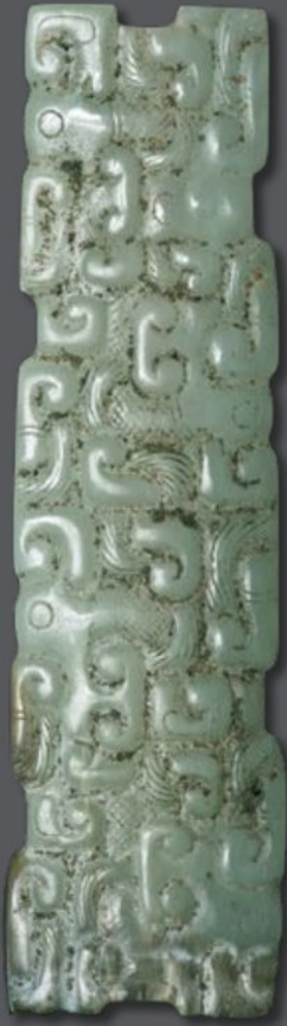
207-208
TWO RECTANGULAR BEADS WITH *PANHUI* PATTERN OF 'SWARMING SNAKES'
兩長方形蟠虺紋玉管

Flat, elongated beads like the two presented here are mostly documented in archaeological sites in Henan province and southern China: a set of ornamental jades comprising two arched *huang* 璜 [redacted]

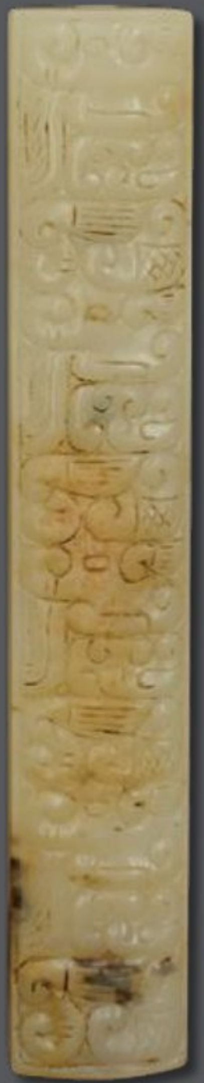
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



207
Length 7 cm
長 7 厘米



208
Length 7.3 cm
長 7.3 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

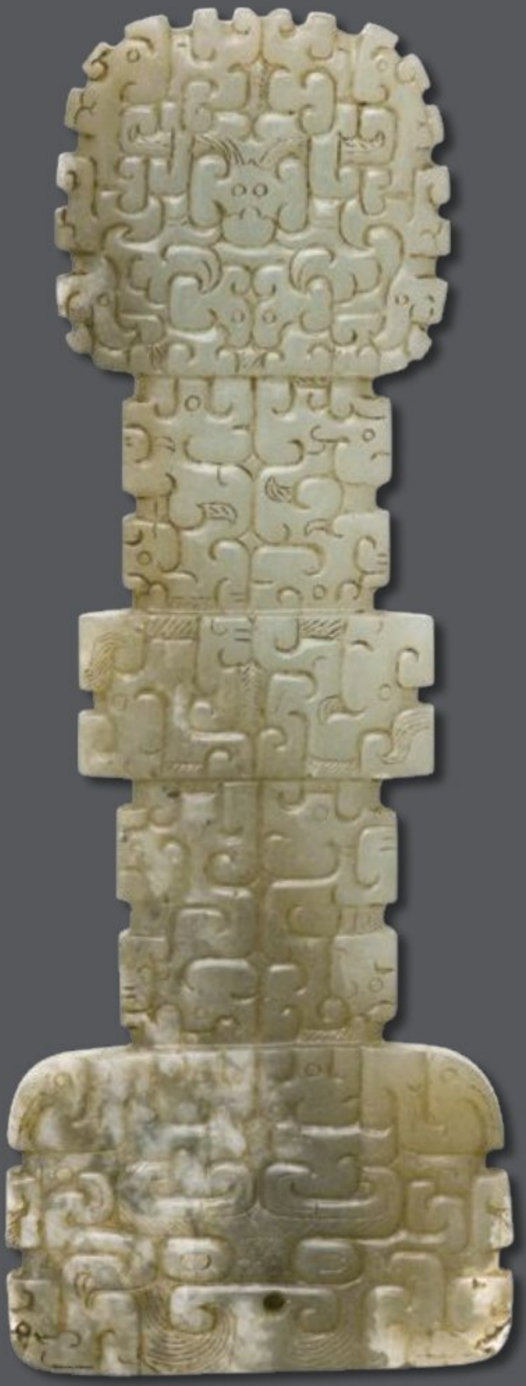
209
DAGGER HANDLE WITH MASK DESIGN AND PATTERN OF ‘SWARMING SNAKES’, *PANHUI*
蟠虺, 獸面紋玉匕柄

Daggers were one of the main emblems of authority of the kings and nobles who ruled the various states during the Eastern Zhou period. It is thus not surprising that jade fittings were applied to daggers and swords to embellish the weapons and [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



209
Length 13 cm
長 13 厘米

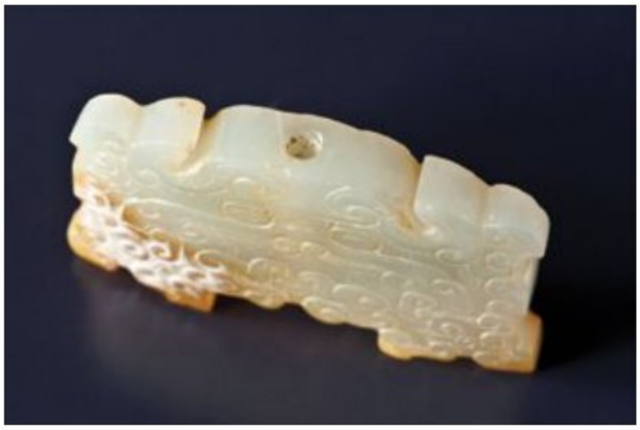
EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

210
SWORD ORNAMENT DECORATED WITH ANIMAL MASK
獸面紋劍玉飾

This jade, slightly trapezoidal in shape and decorated on both sides with an animal mask, was probably used as a sword fitting that was fixed onto its support through the hole drilled vertically in the centre: it can be compared to a component of a jade hilt in two pieces found in a 6th - 5th century [redacted]

[redacted]

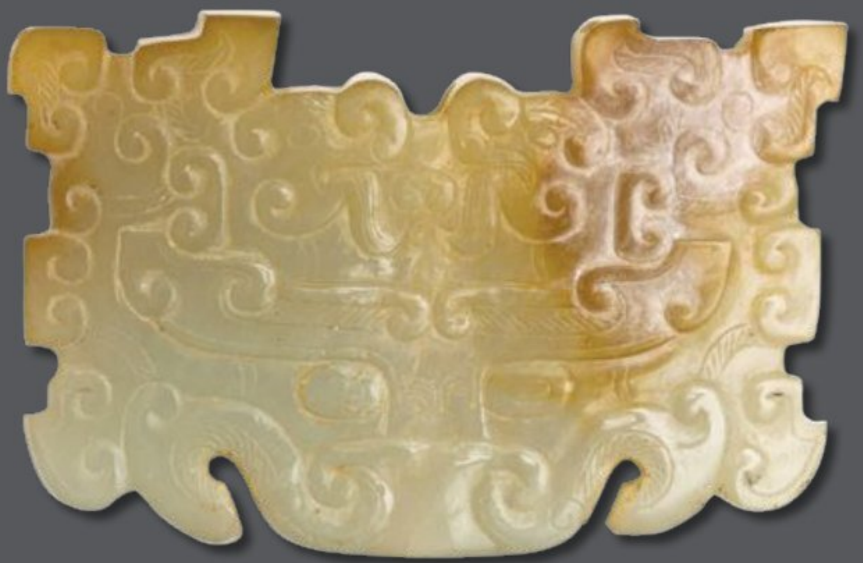
[redacted]



Bottom view of fitting no.210 with a hole pierced throughout.

[redacted]

[redacted]



210
Width 5.1 cm
寬 5.1 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

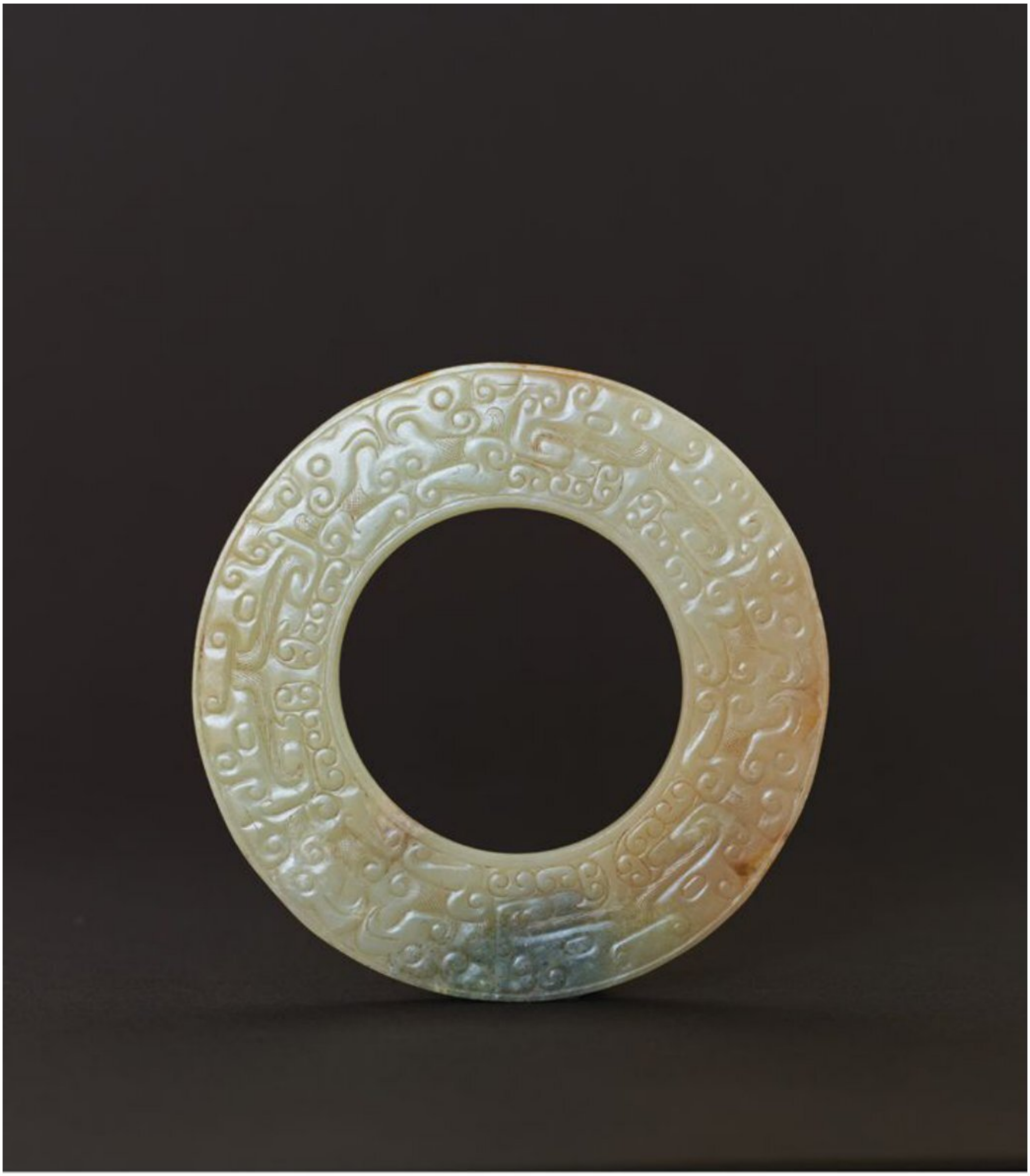
211
HUAN RING WITH ANIMAL MASKS AND BIRDS
獸面,鳥紋玉環

On this *huan* 環, the stylized dragon heads which are usually seen interspersed within scrolls in the ornamentation of the Spring and Autumn period jades, [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



211
Diameter 8.9 cm
直徑 8.9 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, SPRING AND AUTUMN, 6TH - 5TH CENTURY BC
東周, 春秋, 公元前6世紀-前5世紀

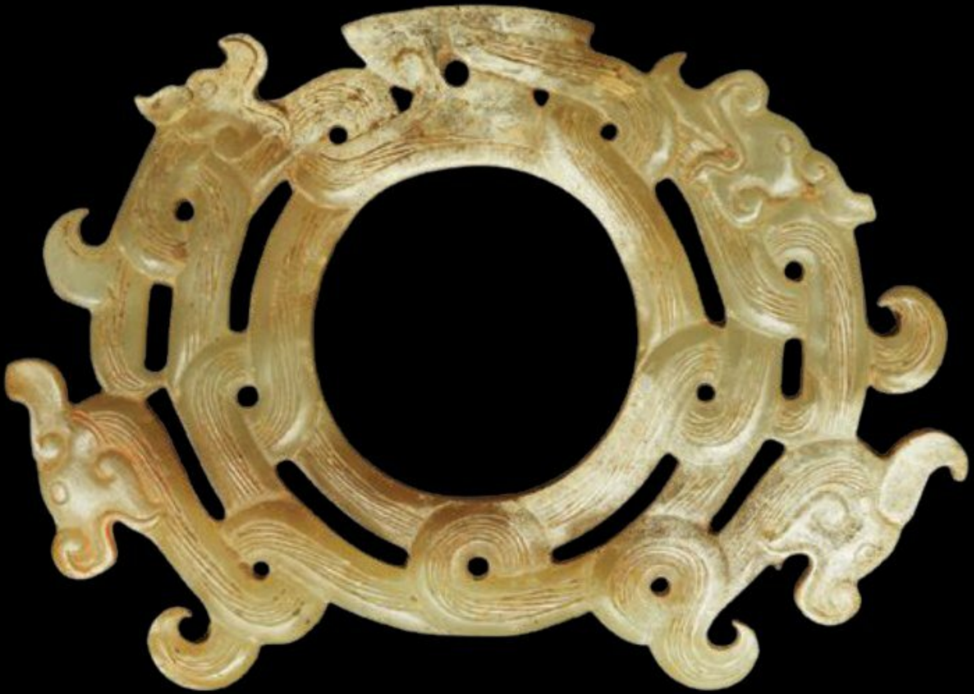
212
OPENWORK ORNAMENT WITH DRAGON DESIGN
鏤空龍紋玉飾

Although the openwork technique had been used sporadically from the Neolithic to the late Western Zhou, it was only in the latter part of the Eastern Zhou period that it was used extensively, [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

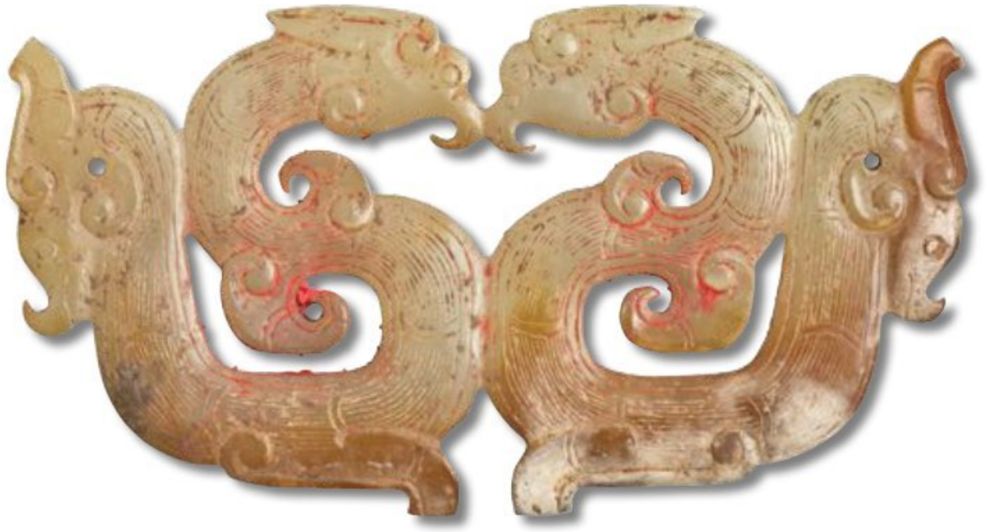


212
Width 7.6 cm
寬 7.6 厘米

213-214
TWO PENDANTS IN OPENWORK WITH DRAGON AND PHOENIX MOTIF
兩鏤空龍鳳紋玉佩

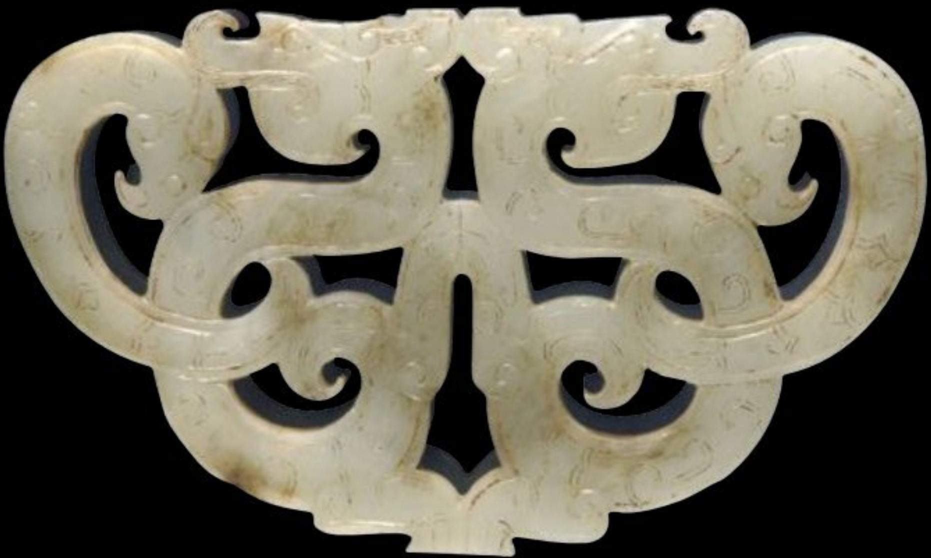
These two pendants display a similar design based on dragons and birds, likely phoenixes, which are often represented together on jades of the late Eastern Zhou period. In the first carving, no.213, the animals share the same long, s-shaped body, [redacted]

[redacted]



213
Width 8.4 cm
寬 8.4 厘米

[redacted]



214
Width 9.9 cm
寬 9.9 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 5TH - 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

215
OPENWORK PENDANT WITH DRAGONS
鏤空雙龍紋玉佩

216
OPENWORK PENDANT WITH TWO DOUBLE-BODIED SNAKES
鏤空雙身蛇紋玉佩

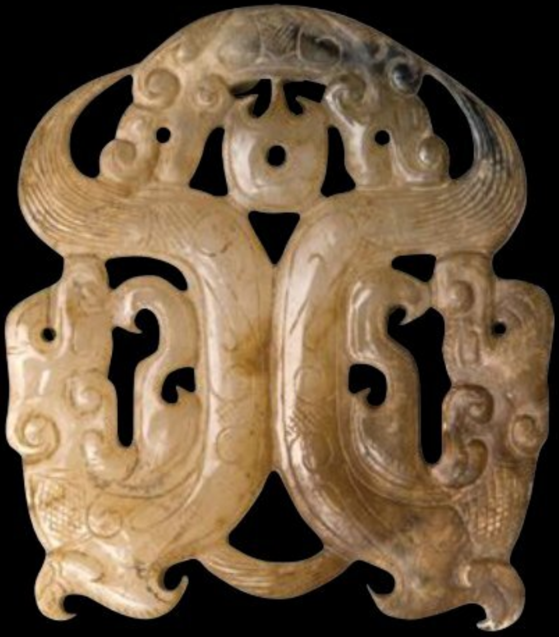
These two small openwork pendants were probably used as connecting devices in necklaces and pectorals. Although the animals carved in the jades are different, dragons in the first and snakes in the second, in both cases their bodies frame [redacted]

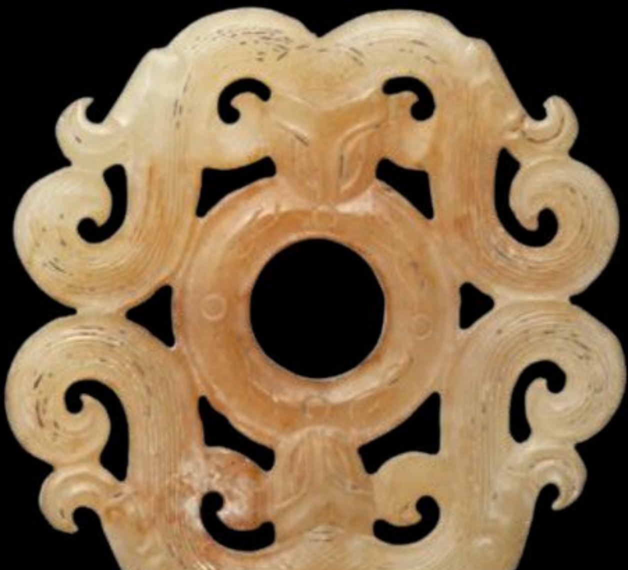
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





215
Height 4.2 cm
高 4.2 厘米

216
Height 4.2 cm
高 4.2 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 5TH - 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

217
OPENWORK ORNAMENT WITH DRAGONS, BIRDS AND SNAKES
鏤空龍鳳蛇紋玉佩

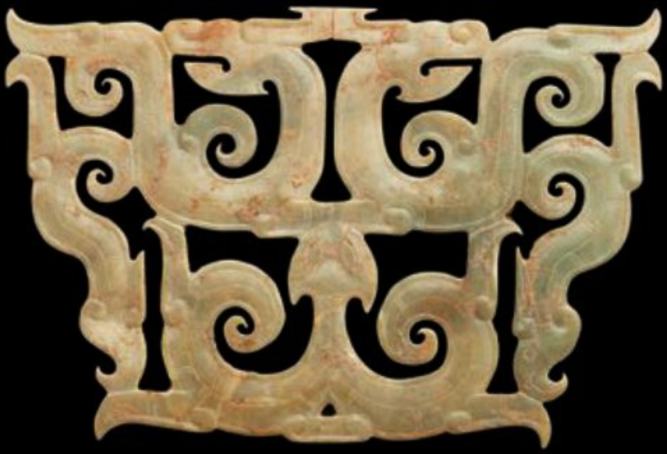
218
OPENWORK PENDANT WITH SNAKES AND BIRDS
鏤空蛇鳳紋玉佩

These two openwork ornaments offer additional examples of the snake motif in jades carved within the Chu culture sphere. The first, no.217, very thin and roughly trapezoidal in shape, has a composite design based on pairs of [redacted]

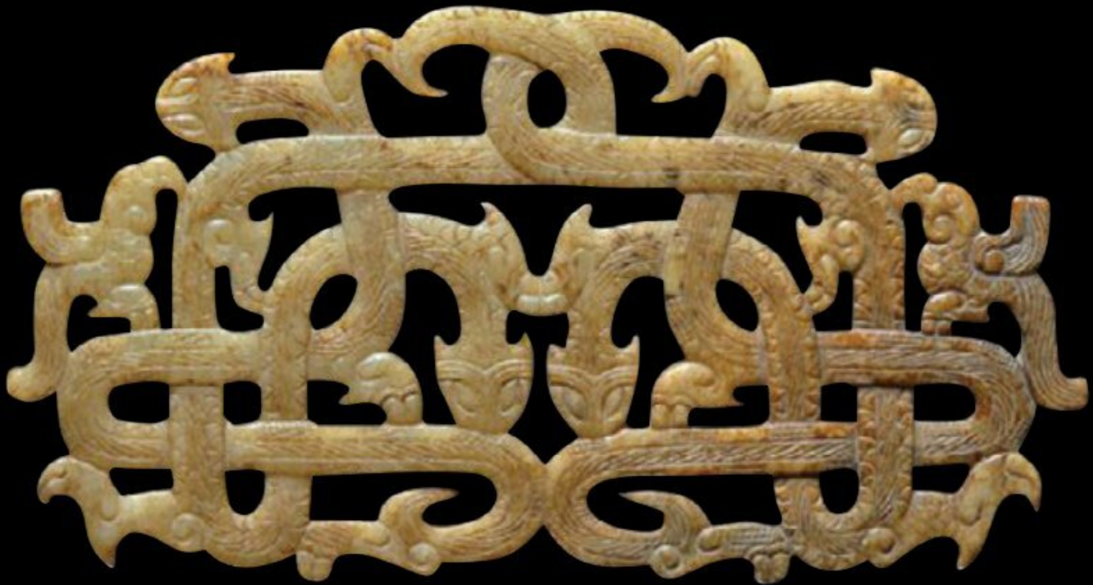
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



217
Height 4.2 cm - Width 6.7 cm
高 4.2 厘米 - 寬 6.7 厘米



218
Height 5.6 cm - Width 10.5 cm
高 5.6 厘米 - 寬 10.5 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 5TH - 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

219-220
TWO OPENWORK PENDANTS WITH DRAGON, PHOENIX AND SNAKE MOTIFS
兩鏤空龍鳳蛇紋玉佩

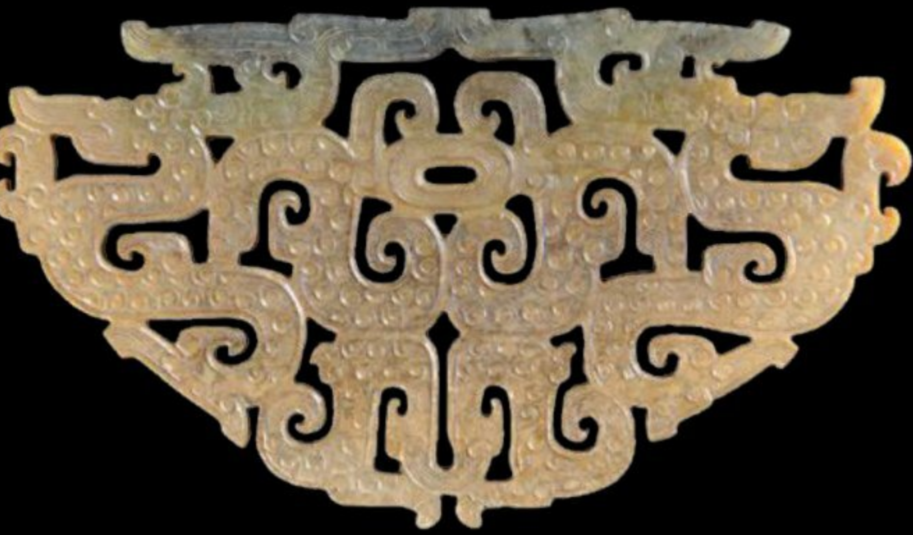
These two fan-shaped ornaments are skilfully carved in openwork with an intricate and symmetric decoration formed by dragons, birds and snakes. Although the overall scheme is similar –both have large outward-facing dragons carved on the sides- there [redacted]

[redacted]

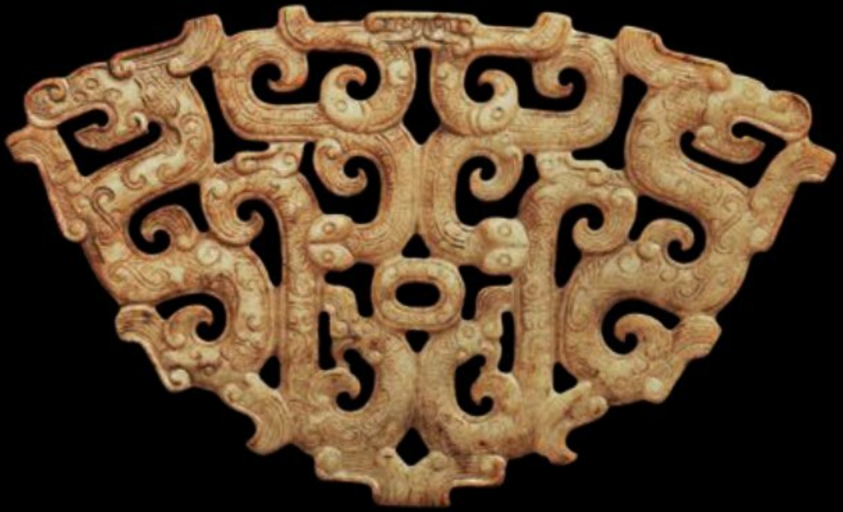
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



219
Height 7.2 cm - Width 13 cm
高 7.2 厘米 - 寬 13 厘米



220
Height 6 cm - Width 10.1 cm
高 6 厘米 - 寬 10.1 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 5TH - 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

221
SMALL OPENWORK DISC WITH PHOENIXES
鏤空鳳紋小玉璧

222
SMALL OPENWORK DISC WITH SNAKES AND DOUBLE-BODIED DRAGONS
鏤空蛇,雙身龍紋小玉璧

These two small discs decorated in openwork with images of birds and snakes are further examples of the Chu culture jade-carving tradition.

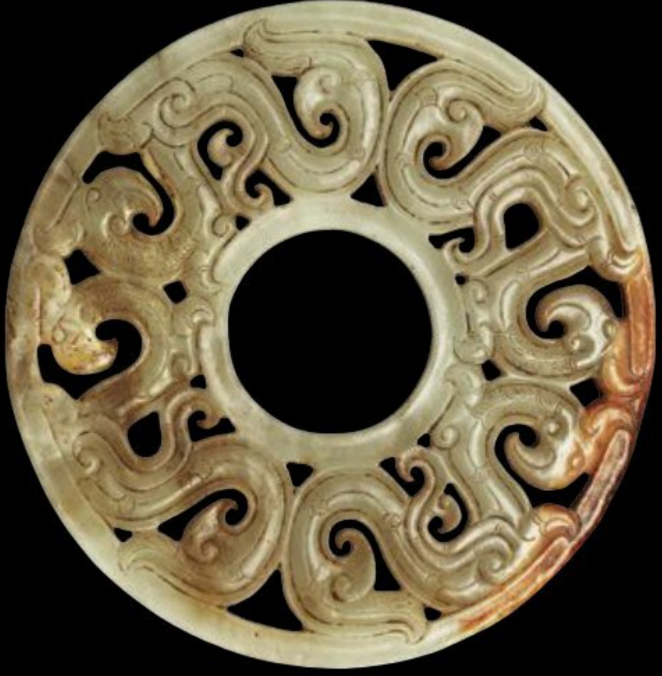
The pattern carved on no.221 consists of two pairs of addorsed phoenix- [redacted]

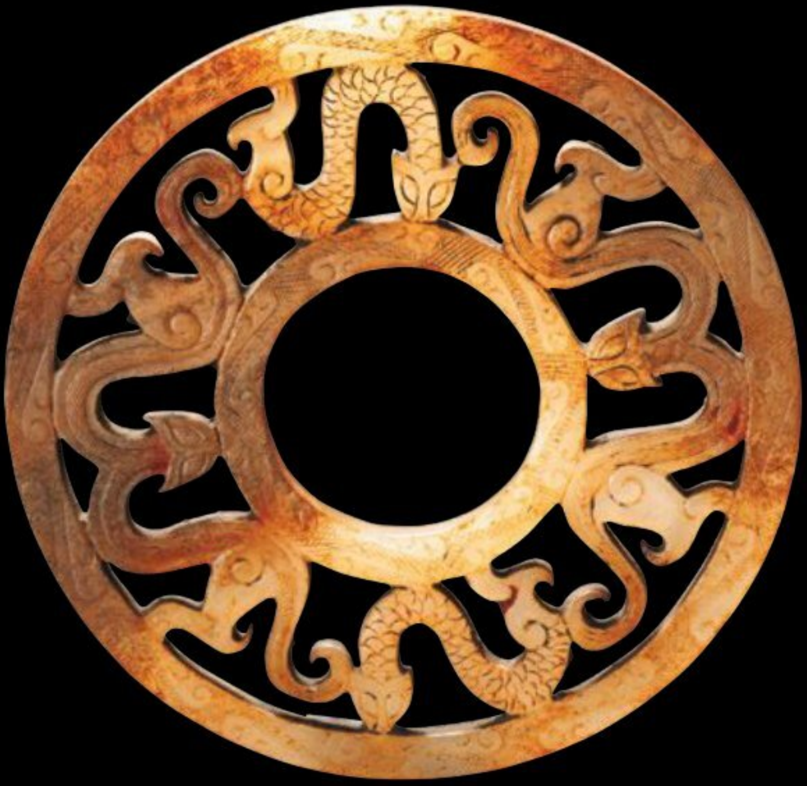
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





221
Diameter 7.2 cm
直徑 7.2 厘米

222
Diameter 10.6 cm
直徑 10.6 厘米

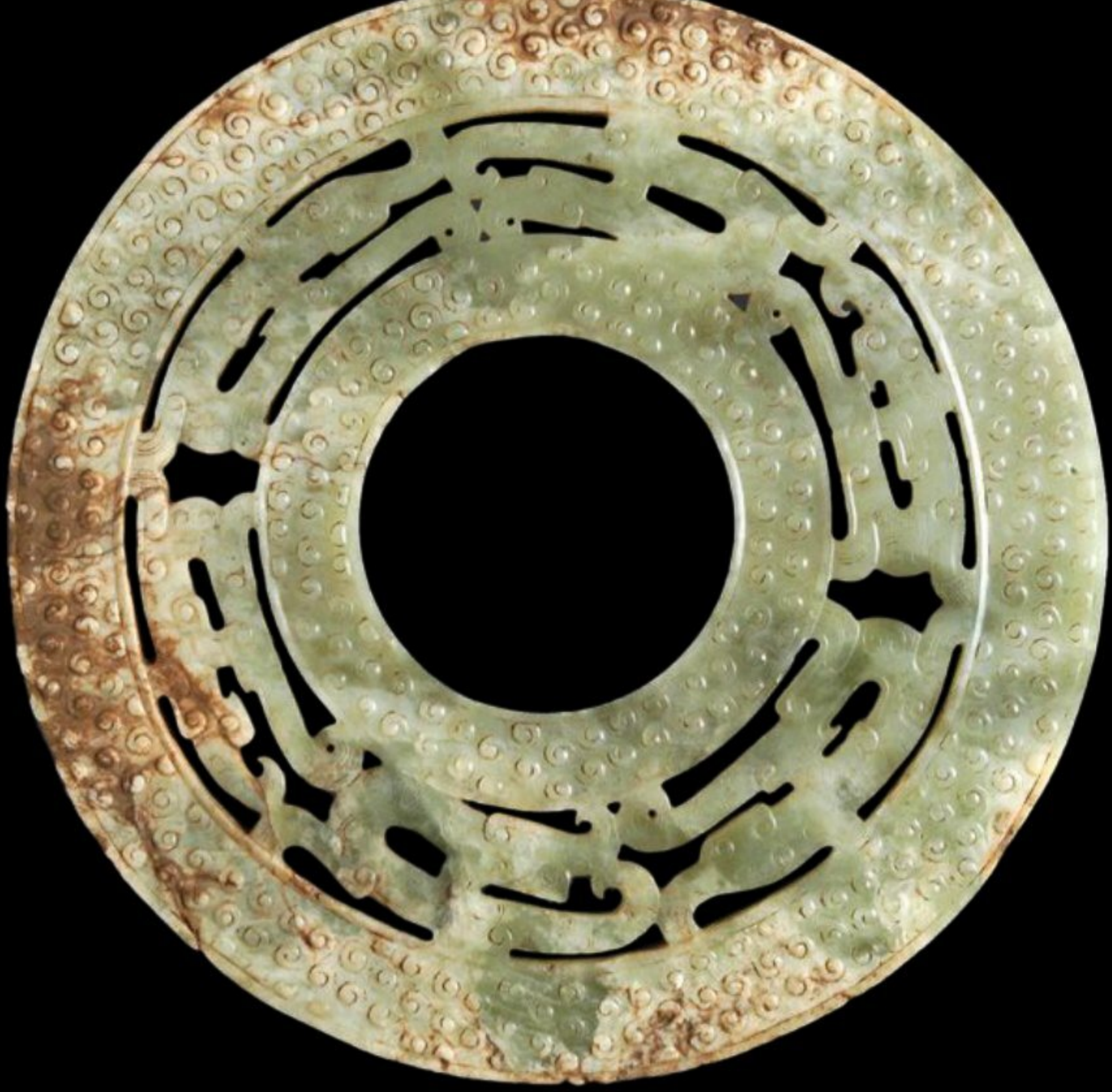
223
DISC WITH OPENWORK DESIGN OF DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES
鏤空龍鳳紋玉璧

While small discs were common ornaments in jade during the Eastern Zhou period, larger ones were rarer. Discs in jade had virtually disappeared from burials by the early Bronze Age and those found in Shang and Western Zhou tombs are usually [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



223
Diameter 17.2 cm
直徑 17.2 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 5TH - 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

224
OPENWORK DISC CARVED AS TWO CONCENTRIC RINGS WITH PATTERN OF CURLS
雙同心穀紋玉璧

225
SMALL DOUBLE-DISC IN OPENWORK WITH DRAGON AND TWISTED-ROPE PATTERN
雙同心龍絲紋小玉璧

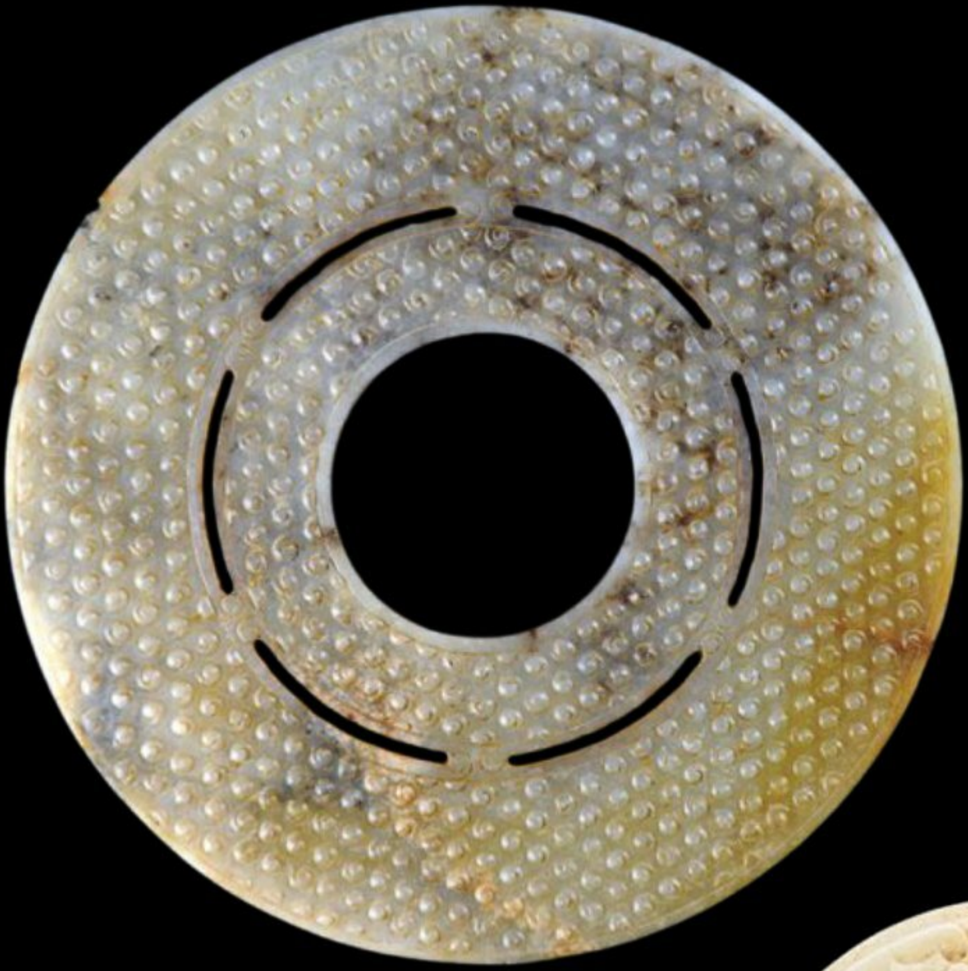
The jades illustrated here are based on the same design as the previous disc but without the inner band in openwork.

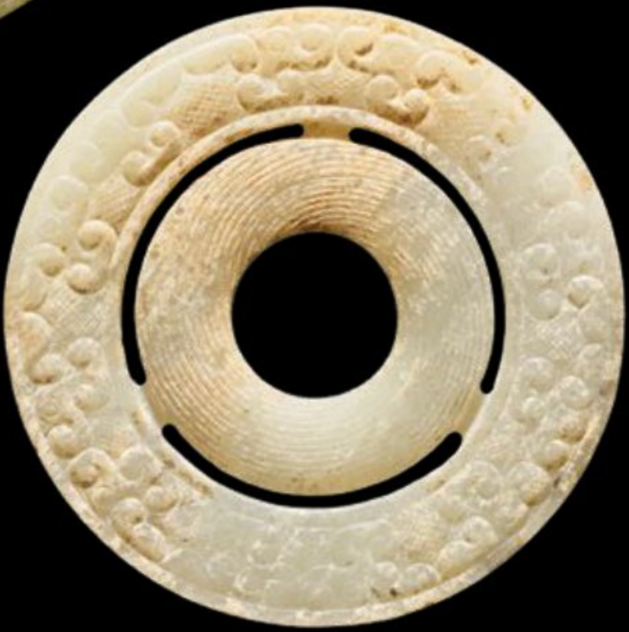
The first disc is carved in the shape of two concentric rings held together by small, equally [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

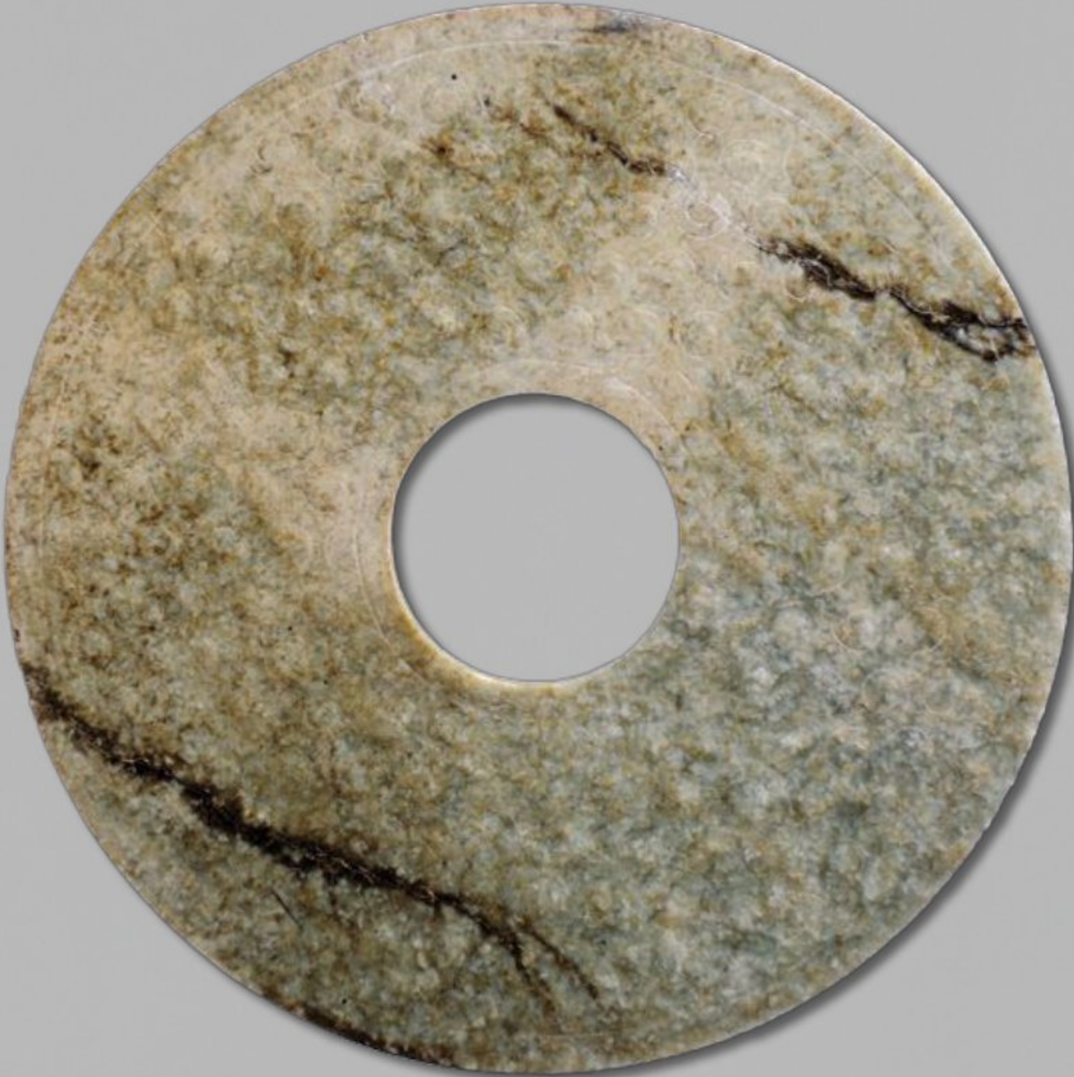
[redacted]





224
Diameter 11.7 cm
直徑 11.7 厘米

225
Diameter 5.7 cm
直徑 5.7 厘米



226
Diameter 14.5 cm
直徑 14.5 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU TO WESTERN HAN, 5TH- 2ND CENTURY BC
東周到西漢, 公元前5世紀-前2世紀

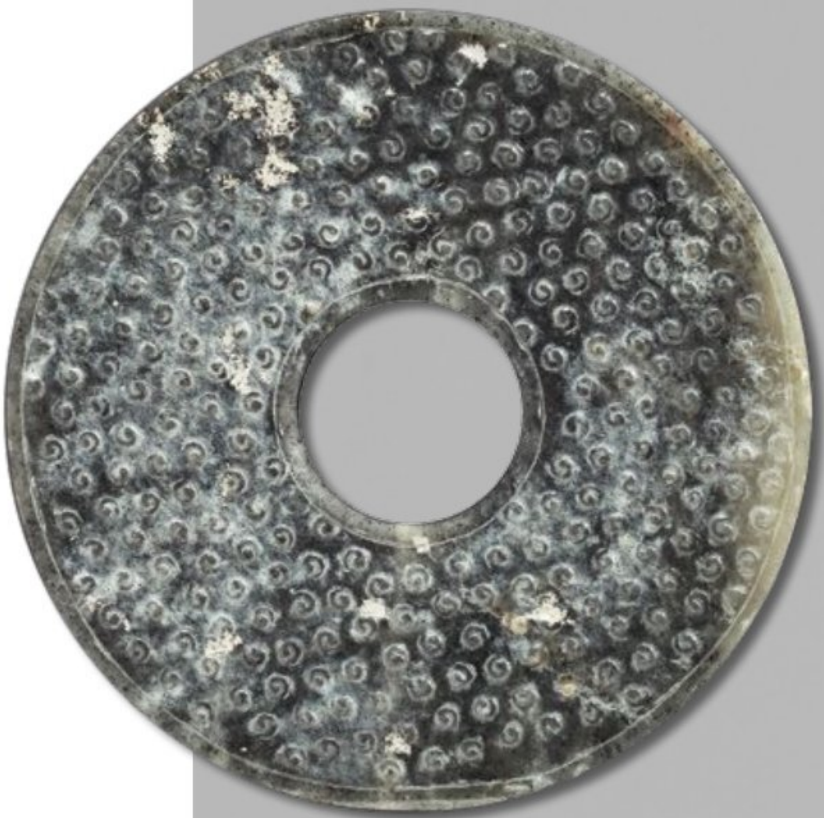
226-229
FOUR DISCS WITH PATTERN OF INCISED CURLS
四穀紋玉璧

230-231
TWO DISCS WITH PATTERN OF RAISED BOSSES, *RUDING*
兩乳丁紋玉璧

Discs carved during the latter part of the Eastern Zhou are commonly decorated with spirals or curls arranged in regular rows, as shown by the six discs presented here. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

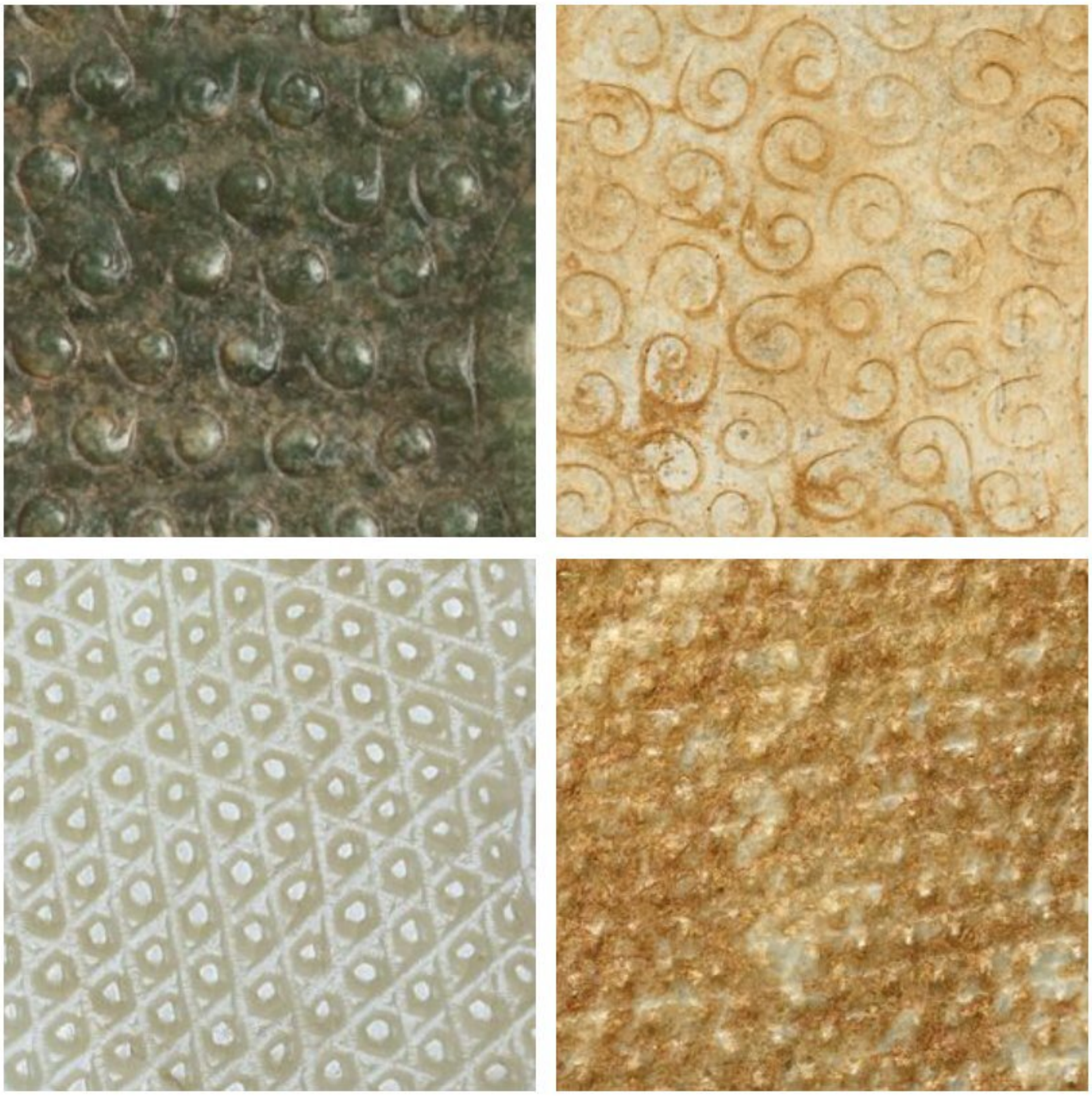


227
Diameter 14.5 cm
直徑 14.5 厘米

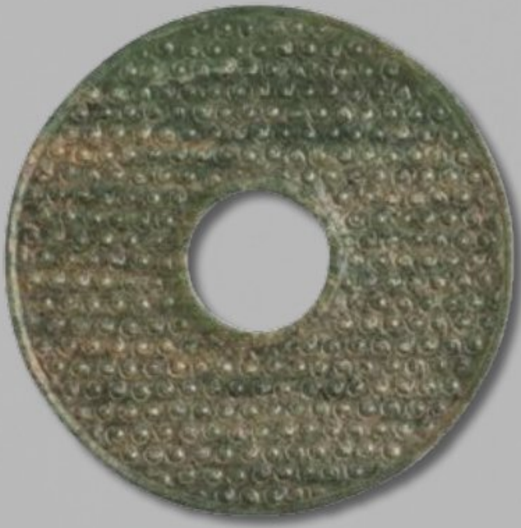
[redacted]

EASTERN ZHOU TO WESTERN HAN, 5TH- 2ND CENTURY BC
東周到西漢, 公元前5世紀-前2世紀

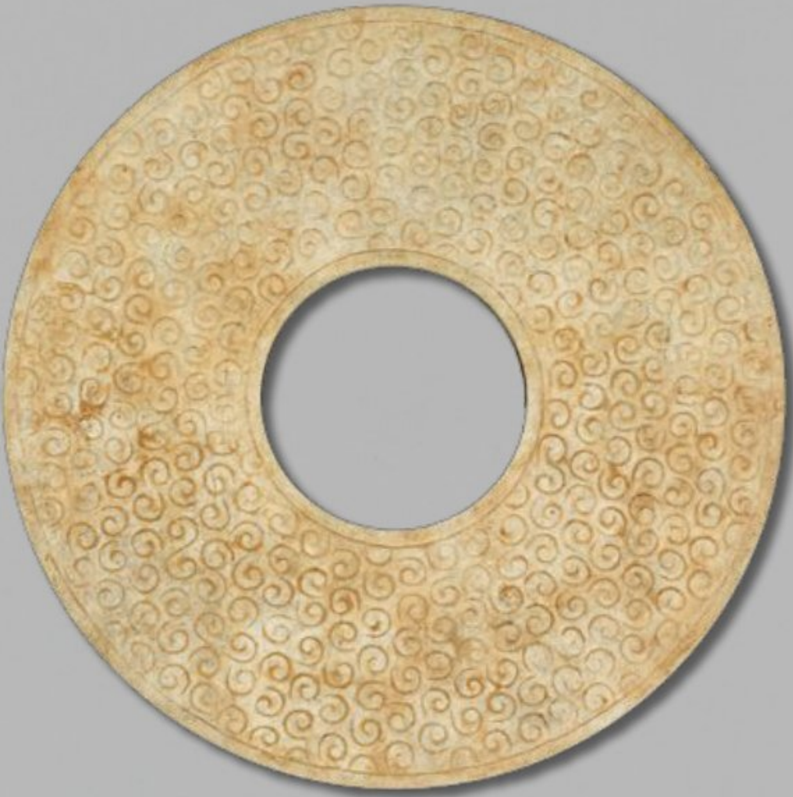
DISCS WITH PATTERN OF INCISED CURLS
穀紋玉璧



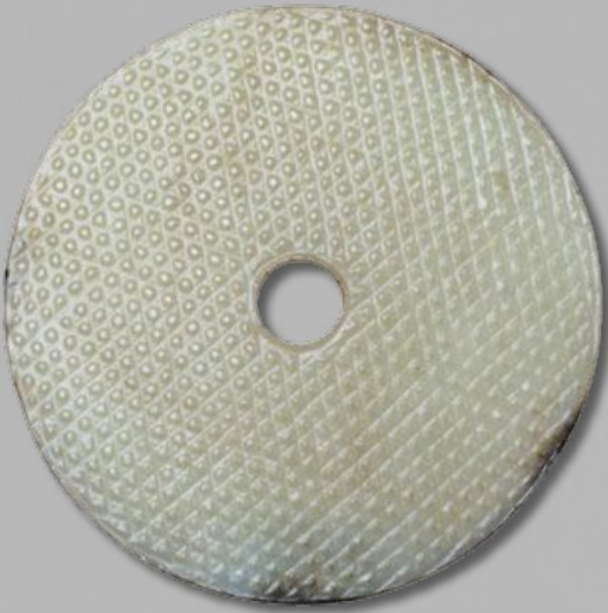
Details of the different patterns carved on the discs nos.228-231.



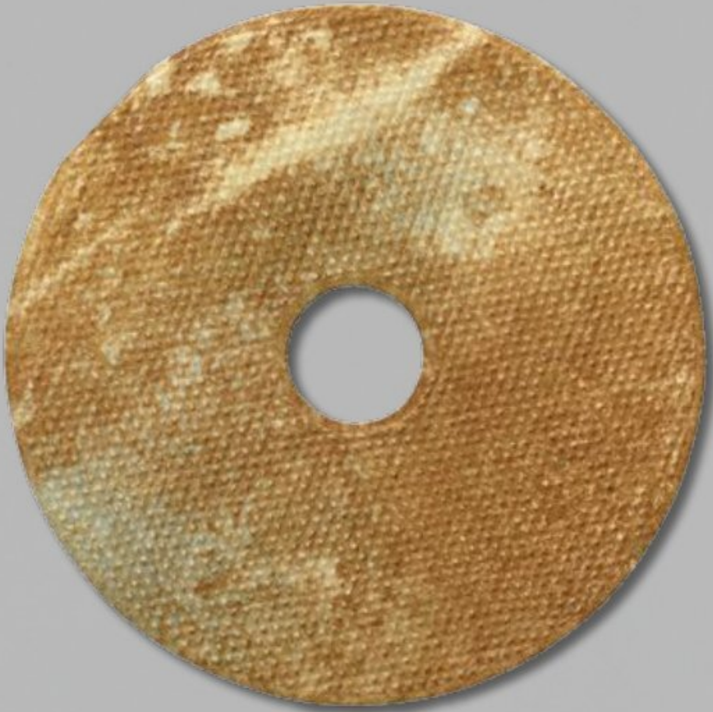
228
Diameter 8.8 cm
直徑 8.8 厘米



229
Diameter 18.7 cm
直徑 18.7 厘米



230
Diameter 13 cm
直徑 13 厘米



231
Diameter 16.2 cm
直徑 16.2 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 4TH- 3RD CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前4世紀-前3世紀

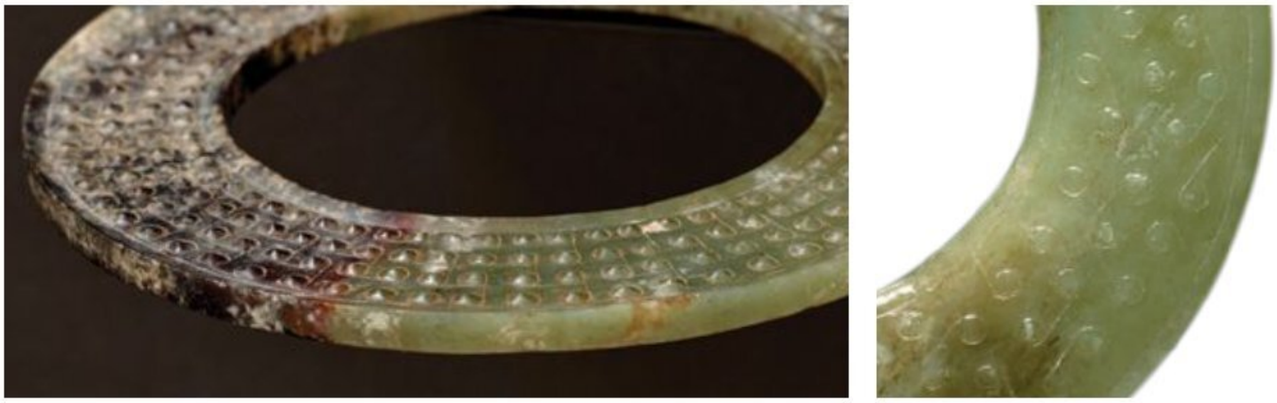
232-234
THREE RINGS DECORATED WITH LINKED CURLS IN RELIEF
三連雲紋玉環

The three rings grouped here are decorated with the pattern of small spirals framed within two plain bands used in the Eastern Zhou discs that were just discussed (nos.226 to 231): however, on these rings the curls are not isolated but rather linked at the base through incised lines and grouped in different configurations. This pattern of linked scrolls, which is usually [redacted]

[redacted]

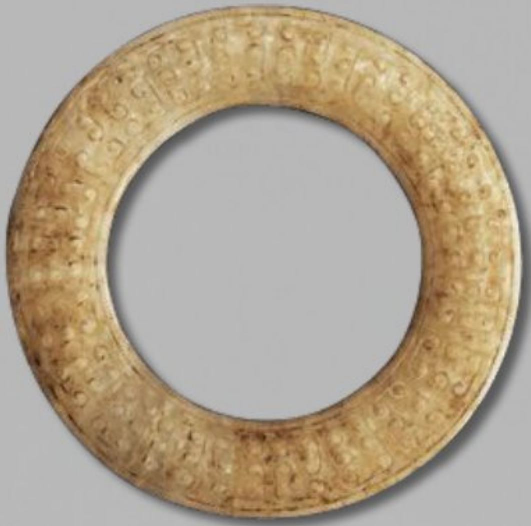
[redacted]

[redacted]

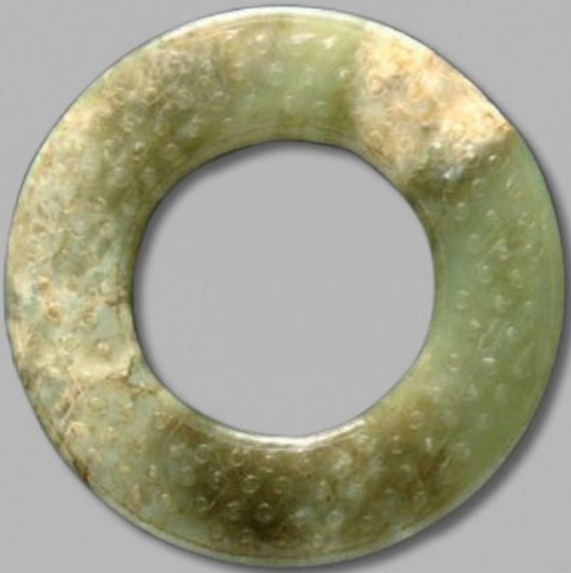


Details of the pattern formed by linked scrolls carved on rings nos.234 (left) and 233 (right).

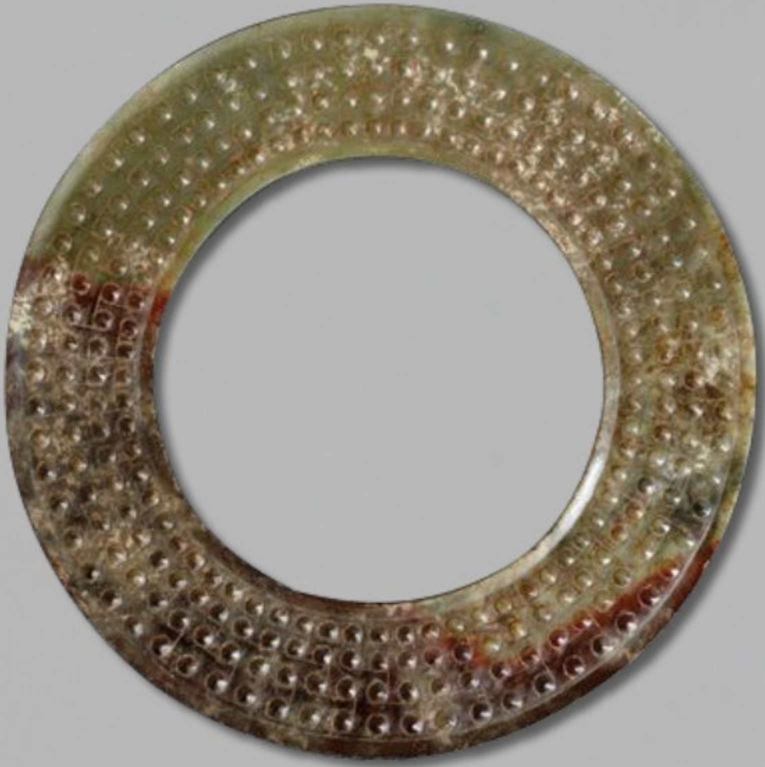
[redacted]



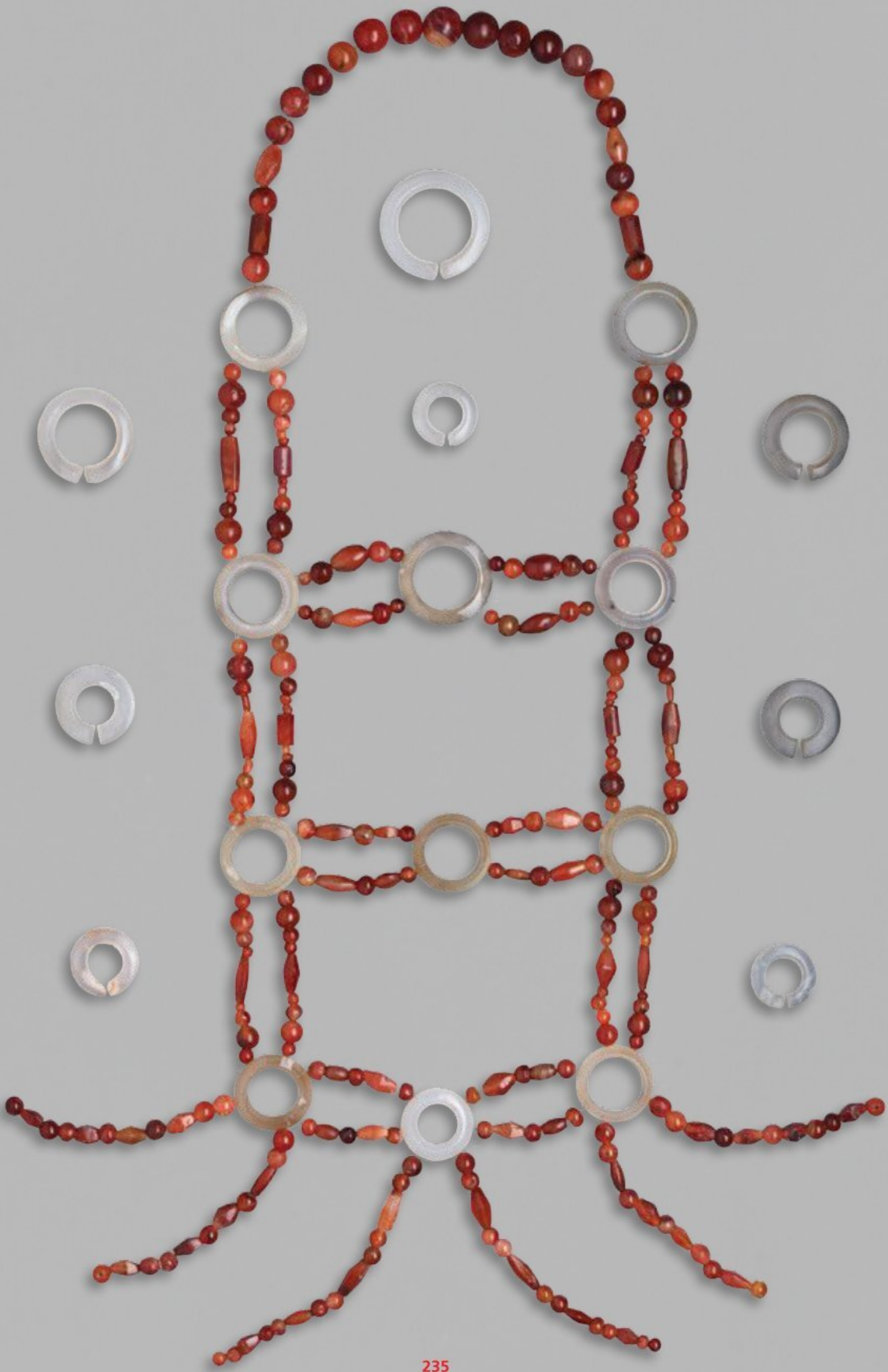
232
Diameter 7.8 cm
直徑 7.8 厘米



233
Diameter 7.9 cm
直徑 7.9 厘米



234
Diameter 11.2 cm
直徑 11.2 厘米



235
Length c. 65 cm
長度約 65 厘米

WESTERN ZHOU, 10TH - 9TH CENTURY BC
西周, 公元前10世紀－前9世紀

235
PECTORAL WITH CARNELIAN BEADS, AGATE RINGS AND *JUE* SLIT-RINGS
紅瑪瑙珠, 瑪瑙環, 瑪瑙 玦串項飾

236
AGATE RING
瑪瑙環

In addition to jade, the ancient Chinese also worked other hardstones, such as rock crystal, turquoise, quartz, carnelian and agate, which were used to craft the beads and rings in this large pectoral and the faceted ring with sharply [redacted]

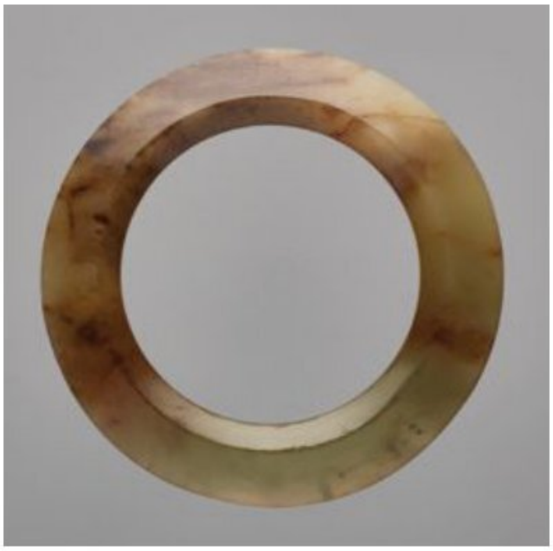
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



236
Diameter 4.7 cm
直徑 4.7 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, 5TH - 3RD CENTURY BC
東周, 公元前5世紀-前3世紀

237
CONICAL BEAD WITH PATTERN OF 'SWARMING SNAKES', *PANHUI*
圓錐形蟠虺紋玉管

238
CONICAL BEAD WITH PATTERN OF CURLS IN RELIEF
圓錐形穀紋玉管

239
CYLINDRICAL BEAD WITH CURLS IN RELIEF
圓筒形穀紋玉管

240
BARREL-SHAPED BEAD WITH MASK MOTIF
獸面紋桶形玉管

241
HOURGLASS-SHAPED BEAD WITH MASK MOTIF
獸面紋漏壺形玉管

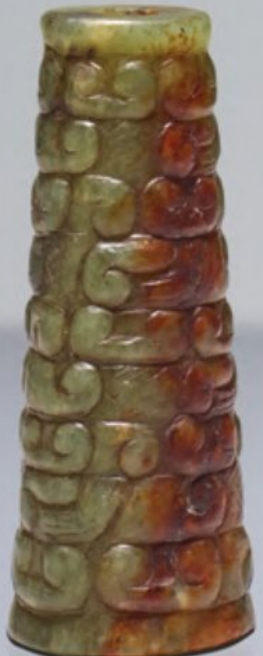
In the Eastern Zhou, beads like those shown here were strung together with other jades -rings, *huang* 璜 and pendants- to make up the elaborate ornaments worn by members of the nobility.

[redacted]

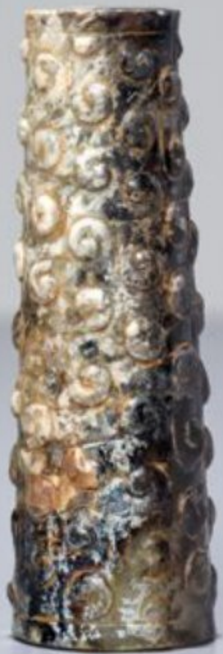
[redacted]

[redacted]

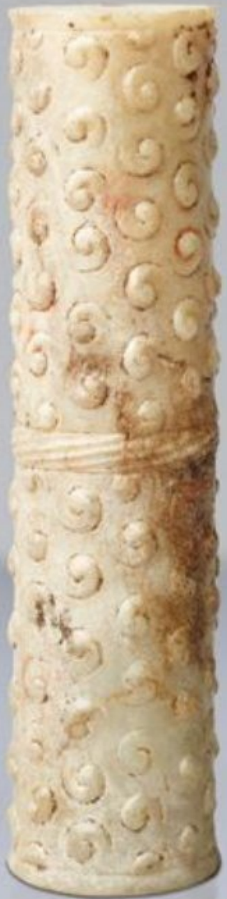
[redacted]



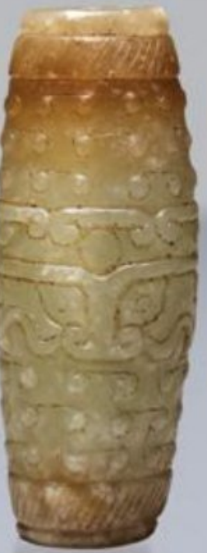
237
Length 4.8 cm
長 4.8 厘米



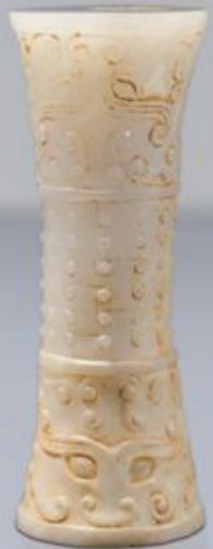
238
Length 4.7 cm
長 4.7 厘米



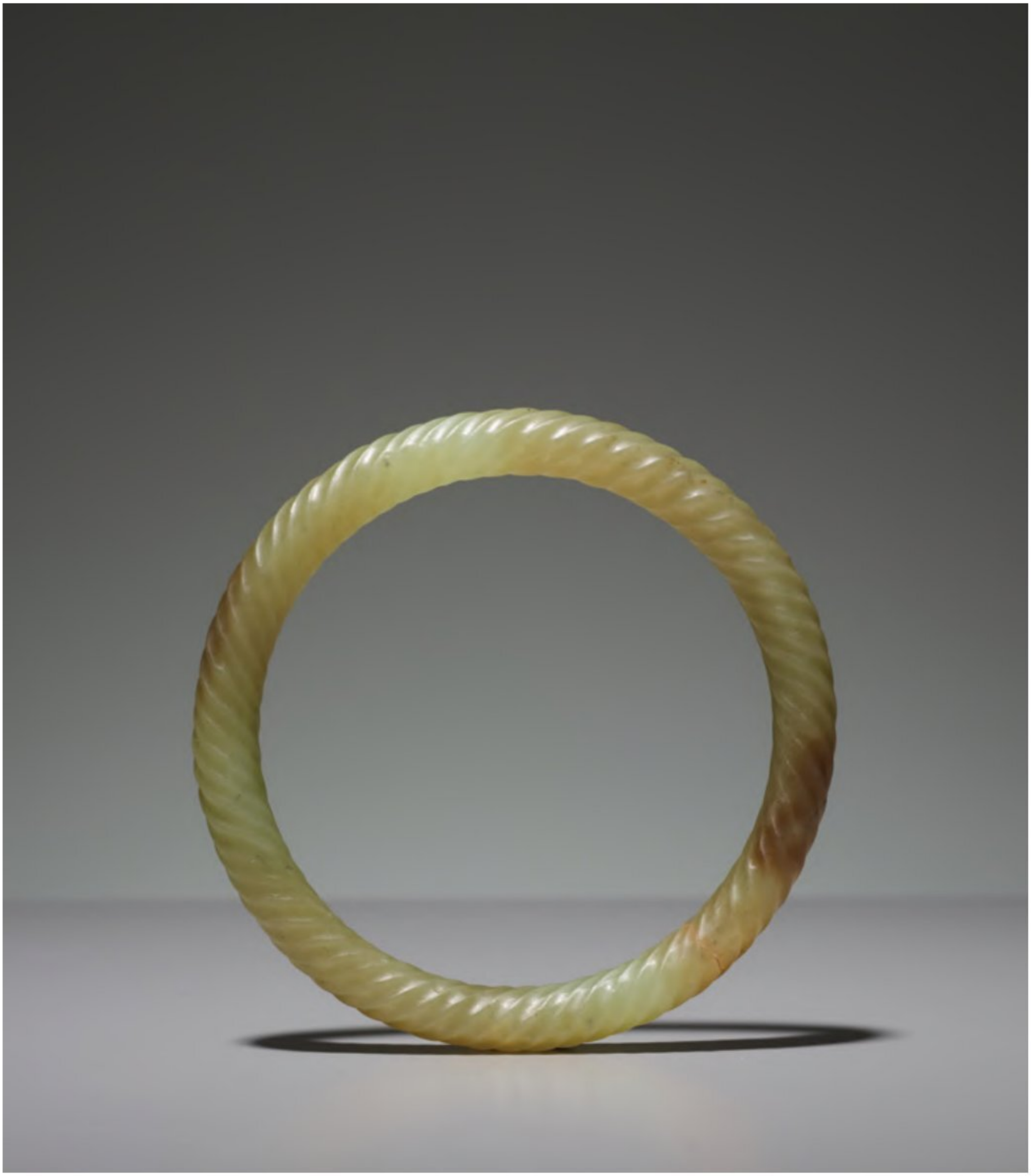
239
Length 10.6 cm
長 10.6 厘米



240
Length 5.1 cm
長 5.1 厘米



241
Length 5.3 cm
長 5.3 厘米



242
Diameter 8.4 cm
直徑 8.4 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU TO WESTERN HAN, 4TH - 2ND CENTURY BC
東周到西漢, 公元前4世紀-前2世紀

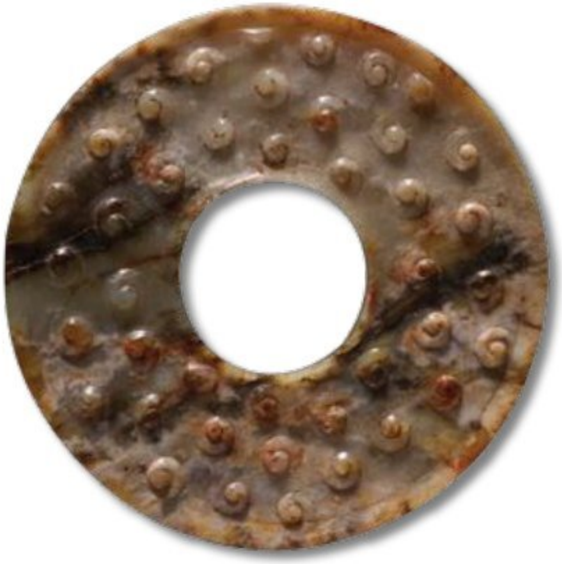
242
RING DECORATED WITH THE 'TWISTED-ROPE' PATTERN
絞絲紋玉環

243
DISC WITH CURLS IN RELIEF
穀紋玉璧

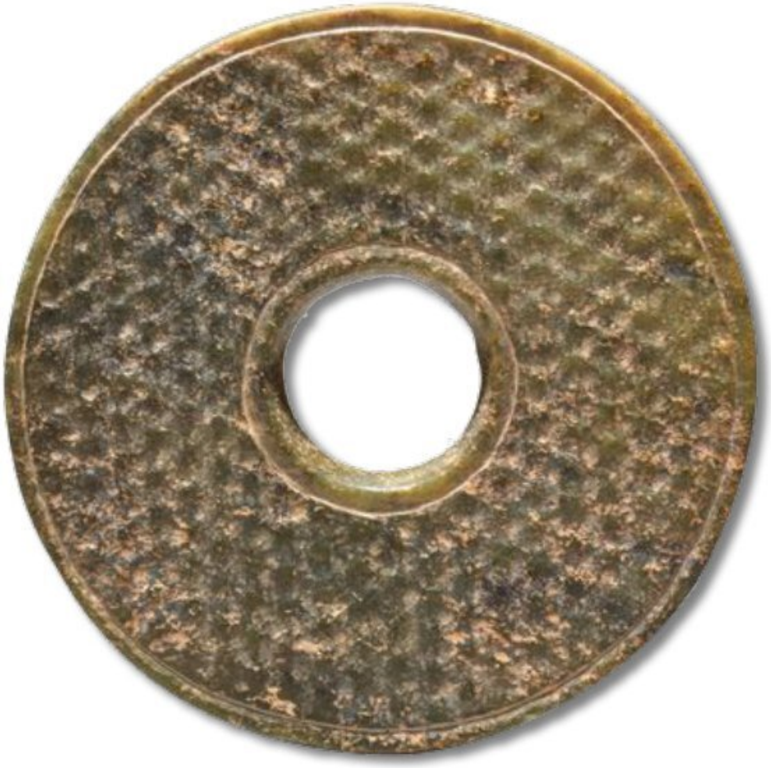
244
DISC WITH BOSSES
乳丁紋玉璧

Rings and discs of reduced dimensions, such as those illustrated here, and beads were the smallest ornamental jades crafted during the [redacted]

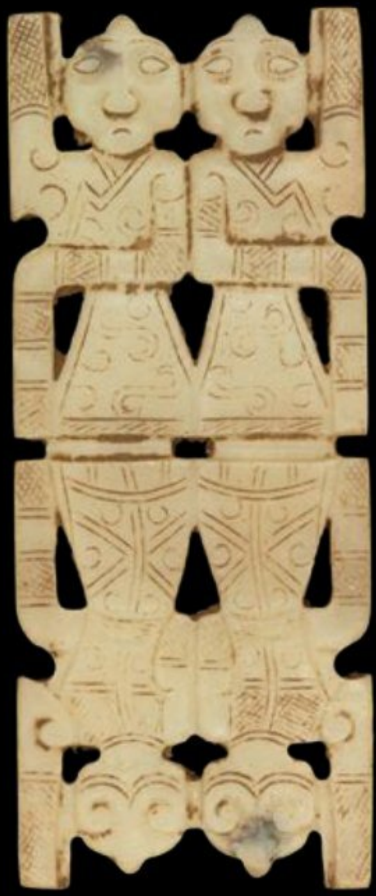
[redacted]



243
Diameter 5.3 cm
直徑 5.3 厘米



244
Diameter 8.7 cm
直徑 8.7 厘米



245
Height 8.2 cm
高 8.2 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, WARRING STATES, 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 战国, 公元前4世紀

245
ORNAMENT WITH HUMAN FIGURES
玉人形飾

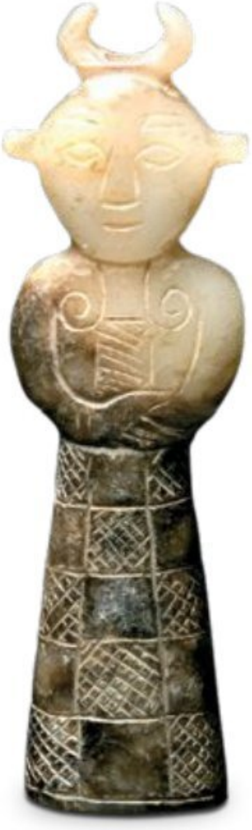
246
CARVING OF A HUMAN FIGURE WITH A HORN-LIKE HAIRSTYLE
角髮型玉人

The human figure was very rarely represented on jades of the Eastern Zhou period: most of the occurrences are from the Chu cultural sphere in the south and from the finds related to the semi-barbarian kingdom [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



246
Length 8.2 cm
長 8.2 厘米

[redacted]

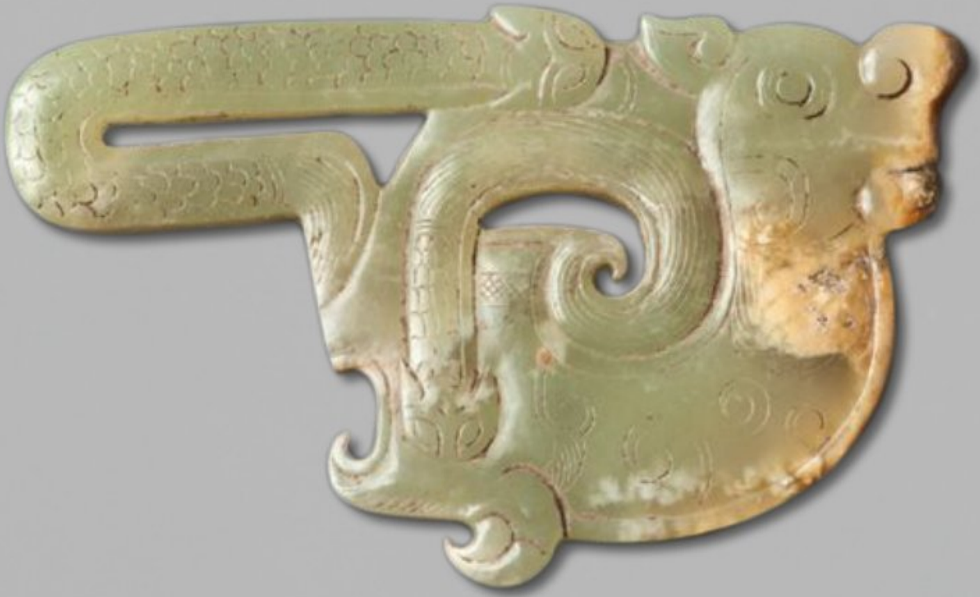
EASTERN ZHOU, 5TH - 4TH CENTURY BC
東周, 公元前5世紀-前4世紀

247
ORNAMENT SHAPED AS A DRAGON WITH TWO SNAKES
雙蛇龍形玉飾

A great deal of Eastern Zhou jades are shaped as dragons, whose long, sinuous bodies were rendered in different guises by the talented Chinese carvers. The jades featured in the following [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



247
Width 5.8 cm
寬 5.8 厘米

248

HUANG WITH TWO DRAGONS AND SNAKES

雙龍雙蛇紋玉璜

The overall form of this arched *huang* 璜 pendant is generated by the intertwined bodies of two dragons whose tails join at the top of the ornament and form a loop for suspension. The heads, carved at the [redacted]

[redacted]

249

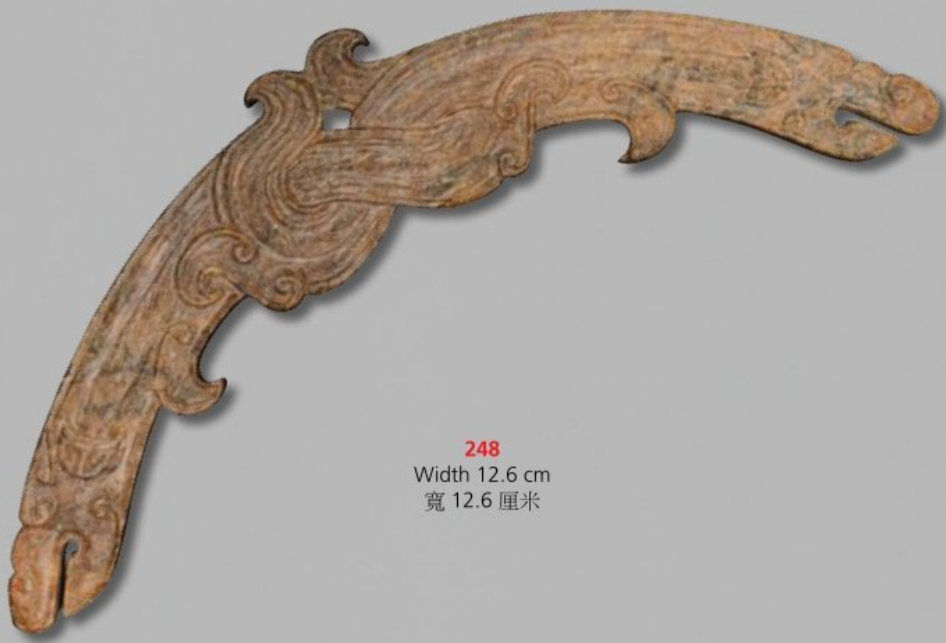
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A DOUBLE DRAGON

雙龍紋玉佩

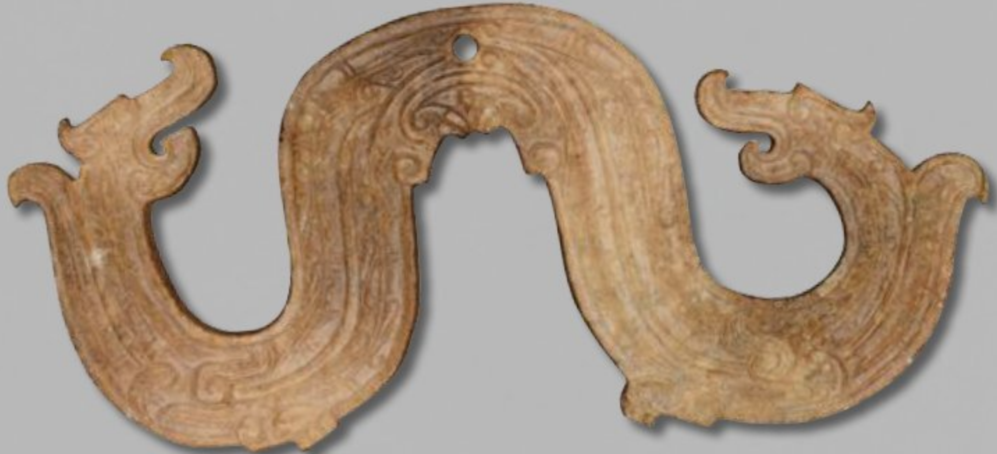
Like the previous pendant, this jade is carved in the shape of two dragons with long, intertwined bodies that meet at the top centre, marked by a suspension hole drilled through the jade. The heads of the dragons -with [redacted]

[redacted]

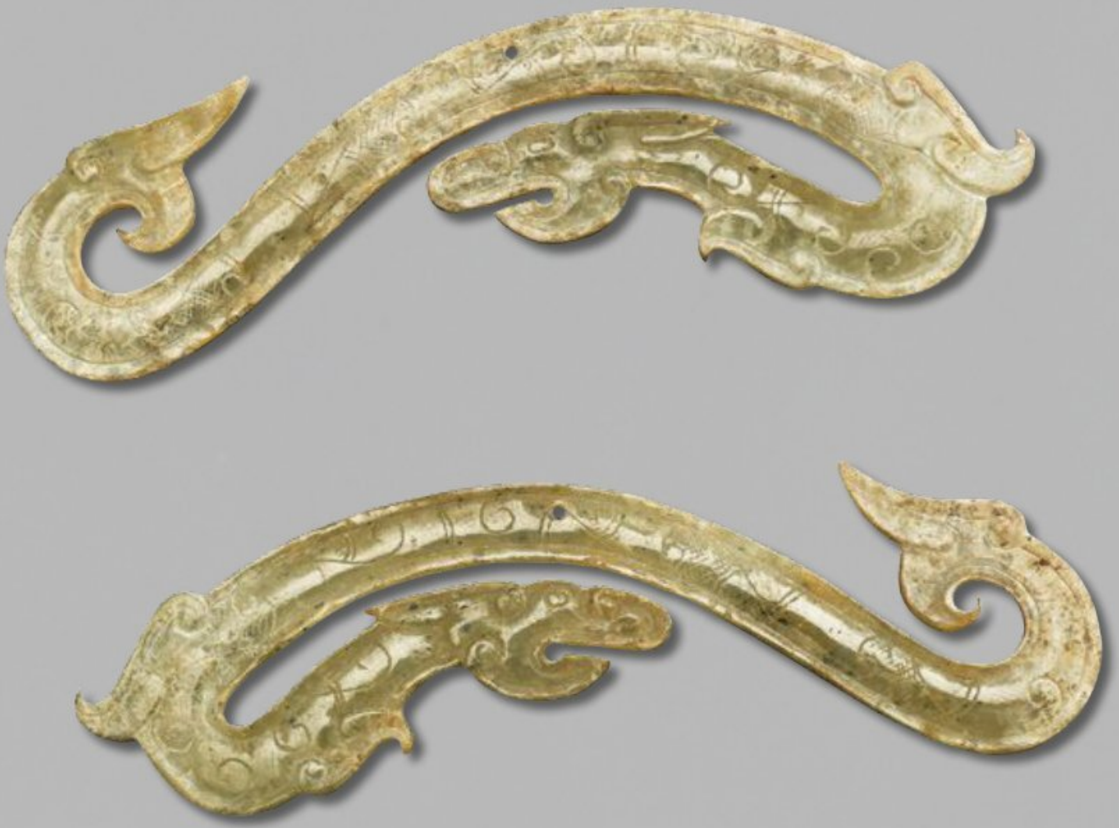
[redacted]



248
Width 12.6 cm
寬 12.6 厘米



249
Width 11.8 cm
寬 11.8 厘米



250
Width 9.2 cm
寬 9.2 厘米

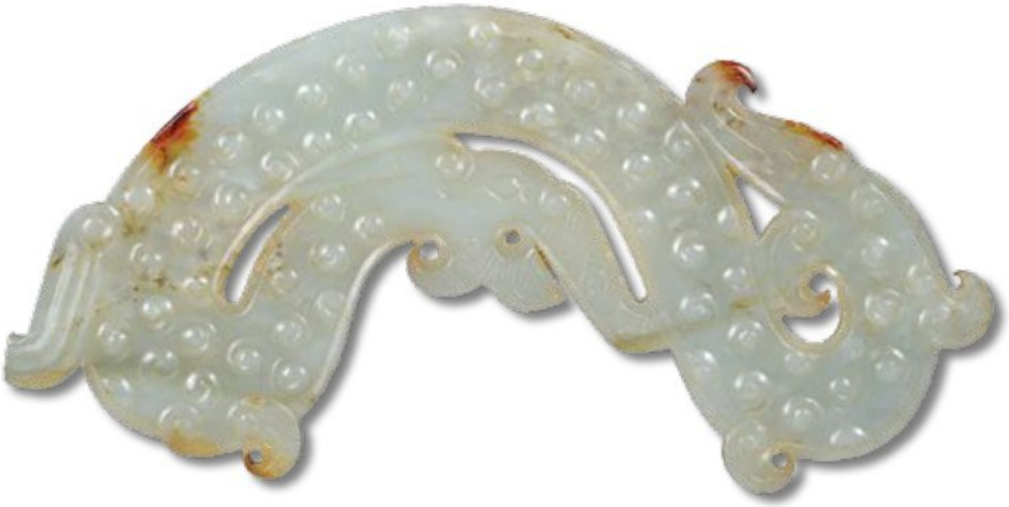
EASTERN ZHOU, 4TH - 3RD CENTURY BC
東周, 公元前4世紀-前3世紀

250
PAIR OF DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANTS
雙龍形玉佩

251
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT
龍形玉佩

Dragon-shaped ornaments were often carved in pairs, as no.250, which is a fine example of this category of jades. The thin, elongated bodies of the animals bend in a dramatic and tight s-shaped pattern: the dynamic posture makes the dragons seem like they are swirling around in the air. The jade dragon no.251 is carved in a similar stance, but its body is bolder and the surface [redacted]

[redacted]



251
Width 9.5 cm
寬 9.5 厘米

[redacted]

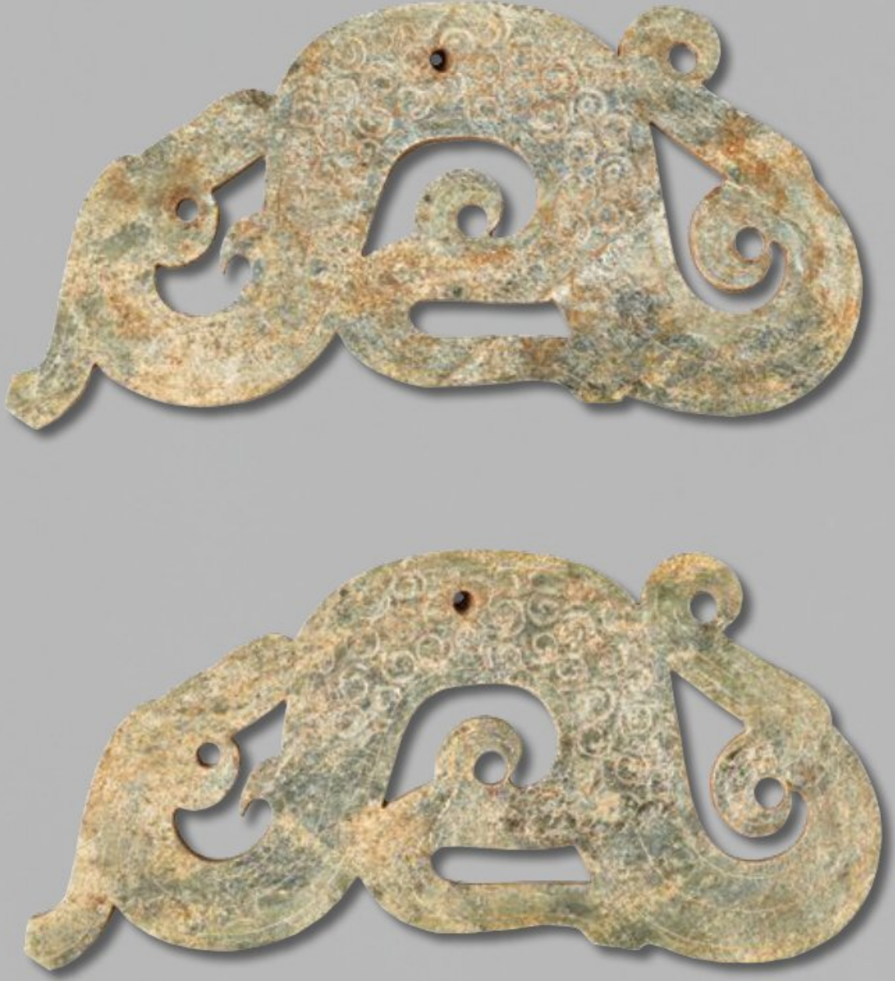
252-255
FIVE DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANTS
五龍形玉佩

These rather sketchy dragon-shaped pendants form a category of jades that is mostly attested in royal and princely burials of the Chu culture where they are usually found in pairs, like no.252. As shown by the four presented here, these jades are [redacted]

[redacted]

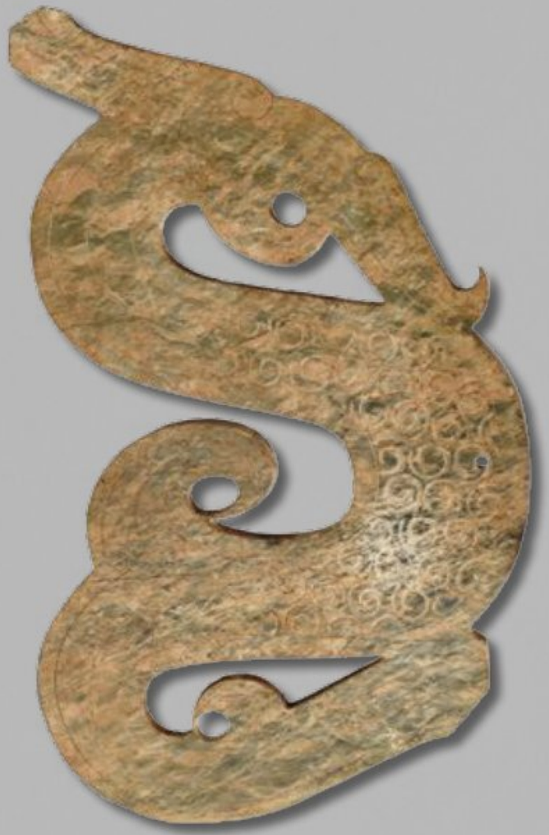
[redacted]

[redacted]

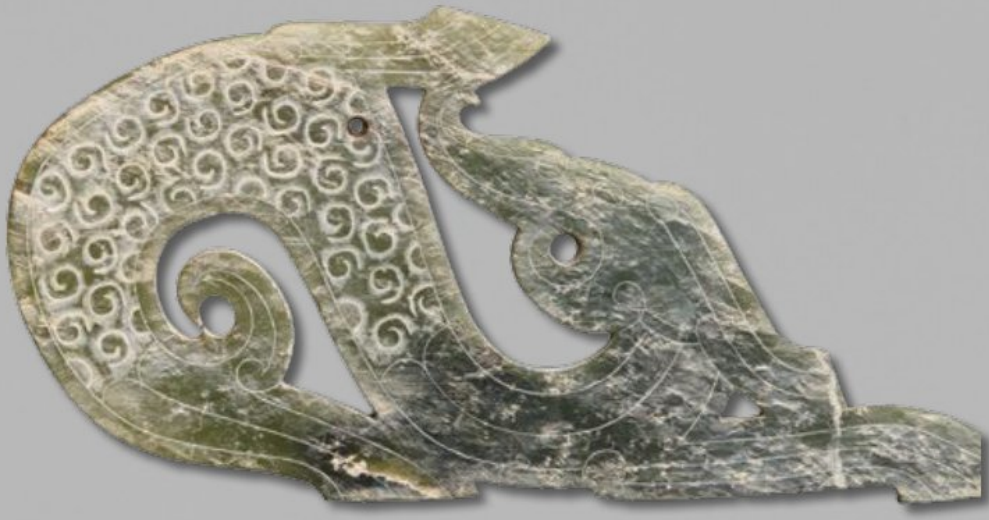


252
Length 14.3 cm
長 14.3 厘米

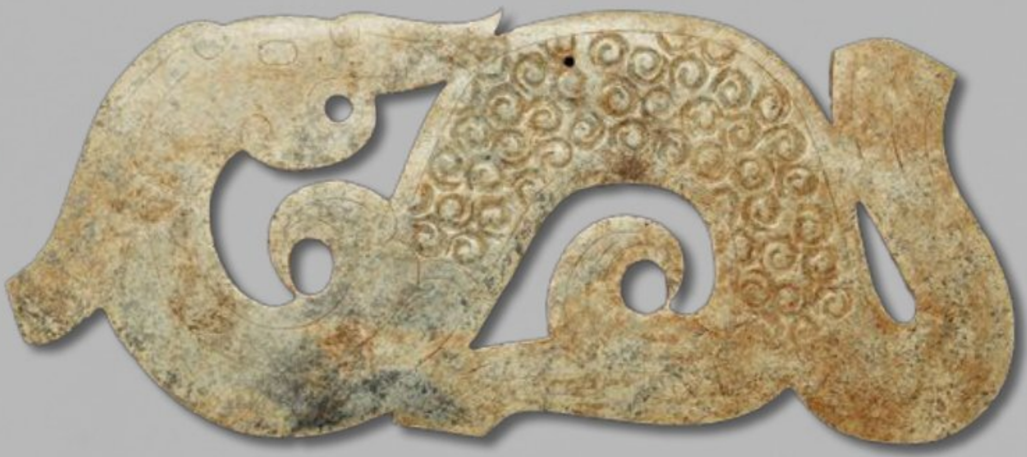
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANTS
龍形玉佩



253
Length 14 cm
長 14 厘米



254
Length 15 cm
長 15 厘米



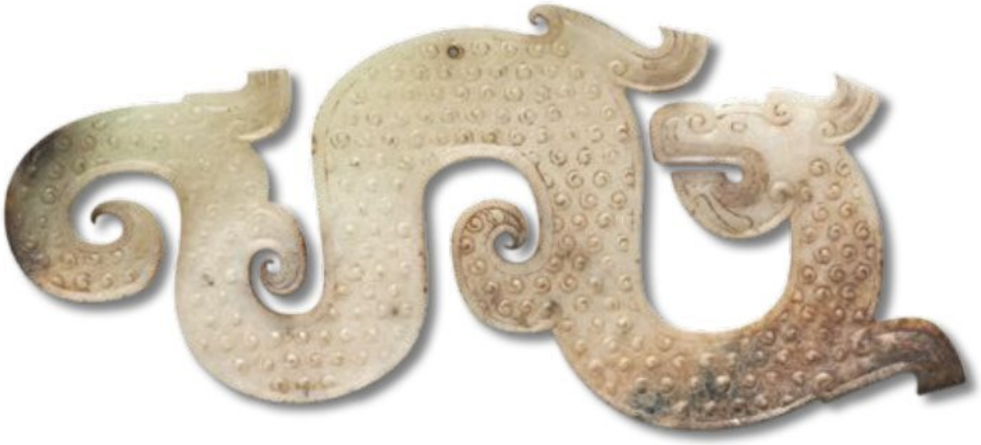
255
Length 16 cm
長 16 厘米

256
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT DECORATED WITH CURLS
穀紋龍形玉佩

This large pendant is carved in the shape of a sinuous dragon in profile whose long, wide body describes an elegant, undulating curve. Curls and appendages sprout from the body and are marked with fine striations that are also carved in the crest of the dragon and along the contour of its mouth. The tail vaguely recalls the stylized head of a bird in profile [redacted]

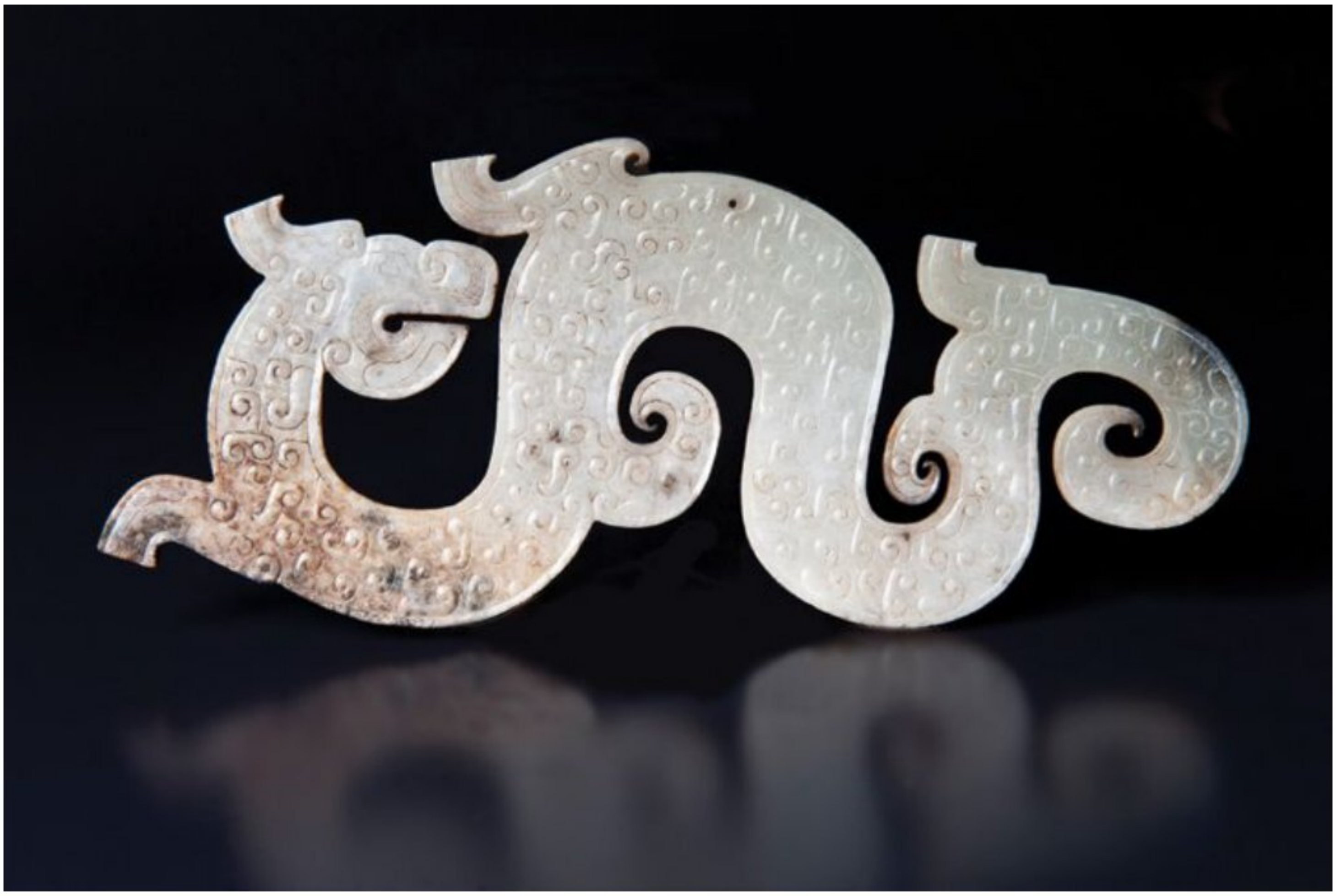
[redacted]

[redacted]



Back view of the dragon pendant no.256 showing the different decoration.

[redacted]

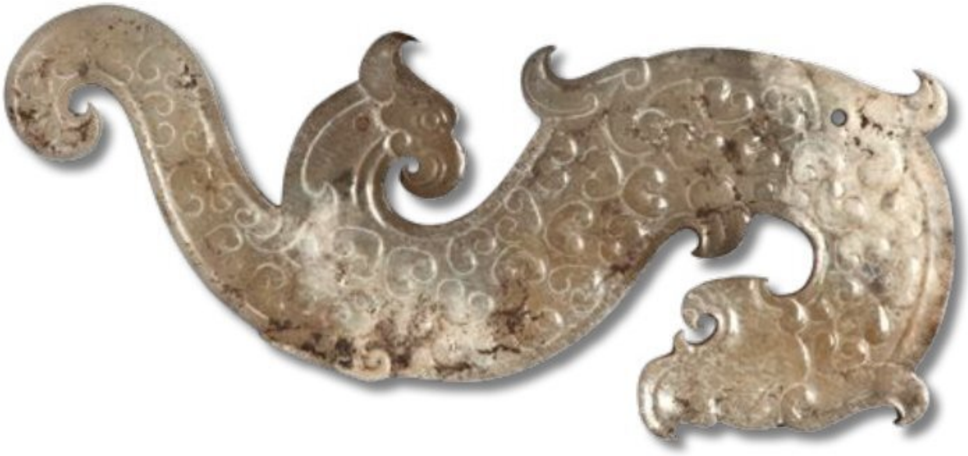


256
Width 18.7 cm
寬 18.7 厘米

257
PENDANT SHAPED AS A DRAGON AND A PHOENIX
龍鳳形玉佩

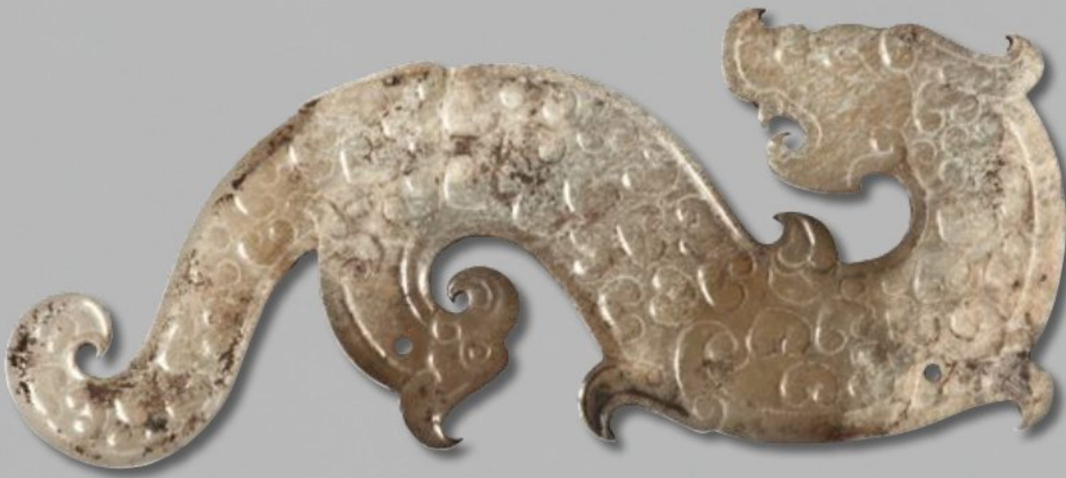
This pendant portrays a dragon and a phoenix that share the same s-shaped body. Their heads are turned backwards, as if looking at each other, and there are two holes for suspension, one drilled in the phoenix's [redacted]

[redacted]



Pendant no.257 upside down.

[redacted]



257
Width 11.8 cm
寬 11.8 厘米

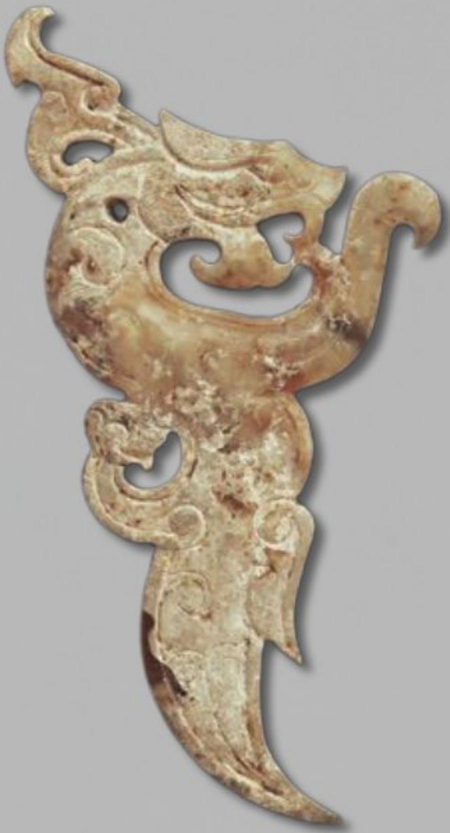
EASTERN ZHOU, 4TH - 3RD CENTURY BC
東周, 公元前4世紀-前3世紀

258-259
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANTS
龍形玉佩

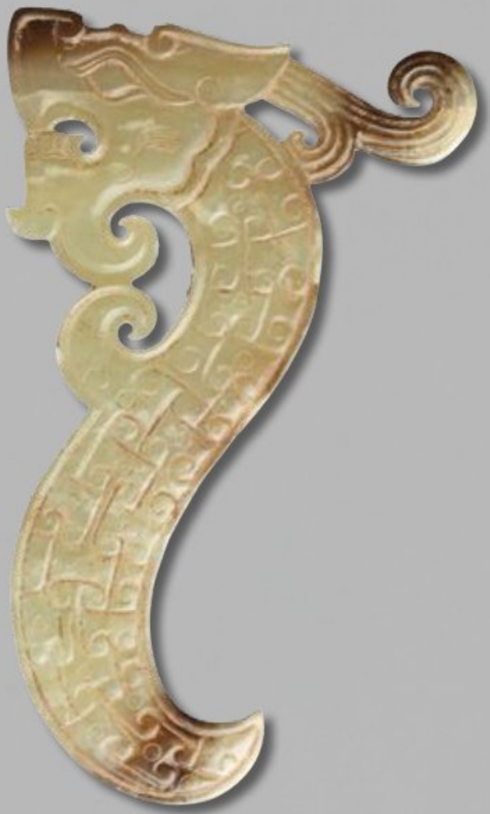
These two small dragon-shaped ornaments are a good example of the technical ability of the ancient Chinese carvers who were able to accurately render even the minutest details on the surfaces of small [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



258
Length 7.1 cm
長 7.1 厘米



259
Length 8.5 cm
長 8.5 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, 4TH - 3RD CENTURY BC
東周, 公元前4世紀-前3世紀

260
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT
龍形玉佩

261
HOOK-SHAPED JADE WITH TWO DRAGON HEADS
兩龍頭鉤形玉

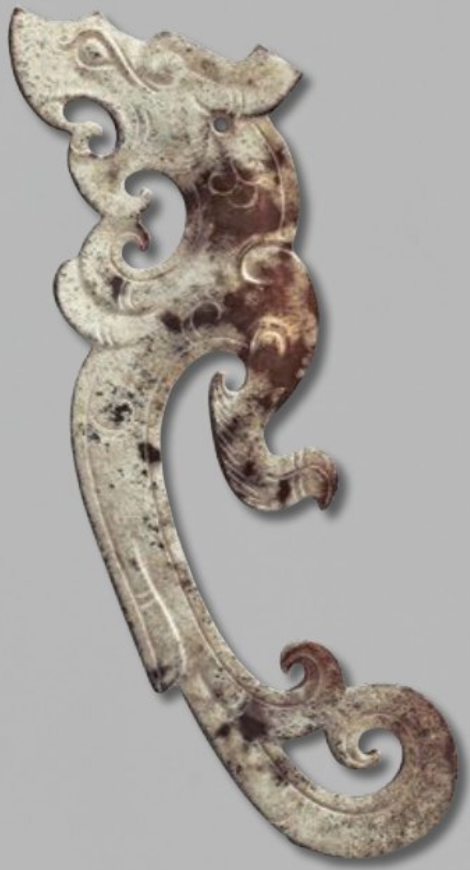
Pendant no.260 is similar to the previous ones and carved in the shape of a dragon with strong feline features represented in profile whose long body terminates in a bifurcated tail with upwards oriented tips. A curling appendage extends from the body to the lower jaw, as [redacted]

[redacted]

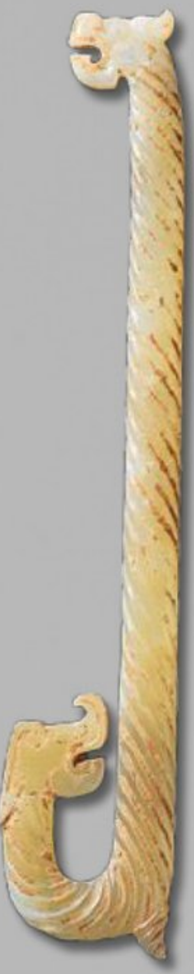
[redacted]

[redacted]

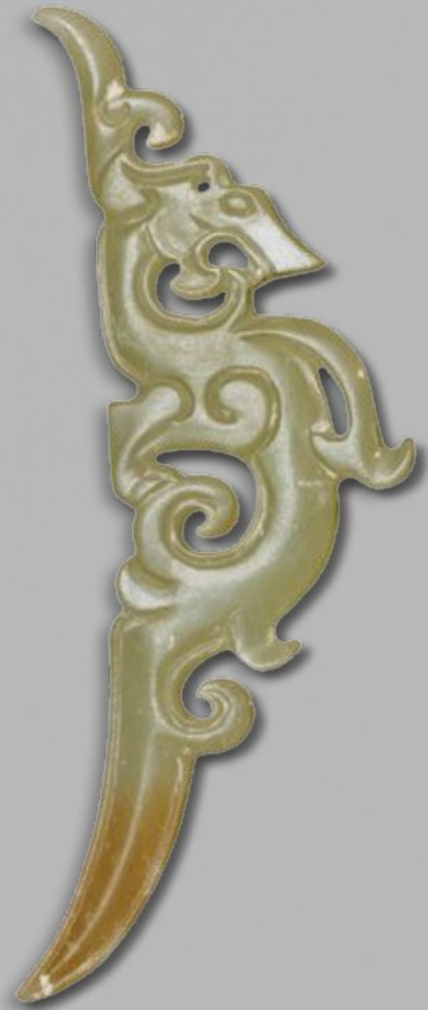
[redacted]



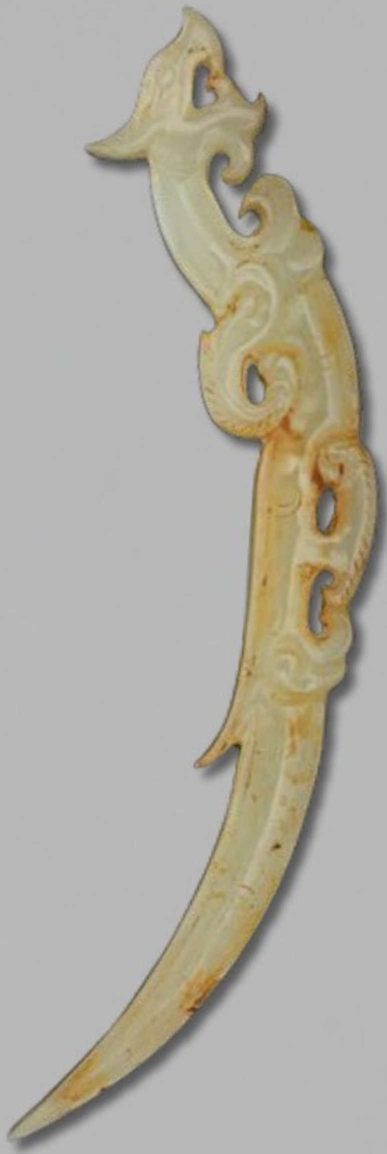
260
Length 7.1 cm
長 7.1 厘米



261
Length 8.3 cm
長 8.3 厘米



262
Length 8.1 cm
長 8.1 厘米



263
Length 8.6 cm
長 8.6 厘米

LATE EASTERN ZHOU, EARLY WESTERN HAN, 4TH - 2ND CENTURY BC
東周晚期, 西漢早期, 公元前4世紀-前2世紀

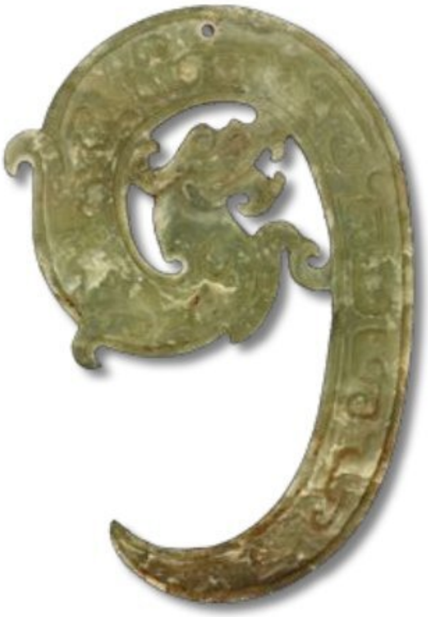
262-263
TWO DRAGON-SHAPED *XI* OR “KNOT-OPENERS”
兩龍形玉觿

264
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF A DRAGON
龍形玉佩

These three jades are all shaped as dragons with feline heads and long pointed tails: the elongated form of the first two items prompt their identification as *xi* 觿 or “knot-openers”, while [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



264
Length 5.5 cm
長 5.5 厘米

[redacted]

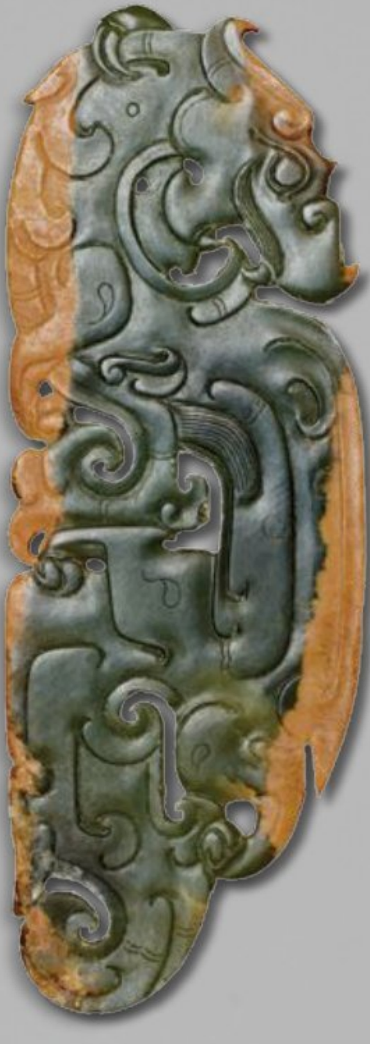
LATE EASTERN ZHOU, EARLY WESTERN HAN, 3RD - 2ND CENTURY BC
東周晚期, 西漢早期, 公元前3世紀-前2世紀

265
DRAGON - SHAPED PENDANT
龍形玉佩

This small, openwork jade is shaped as a dragon with feline features, as often seen on carvings of the late Eastern Zhou and early Western Han periods.

[redacted]

[redacted]



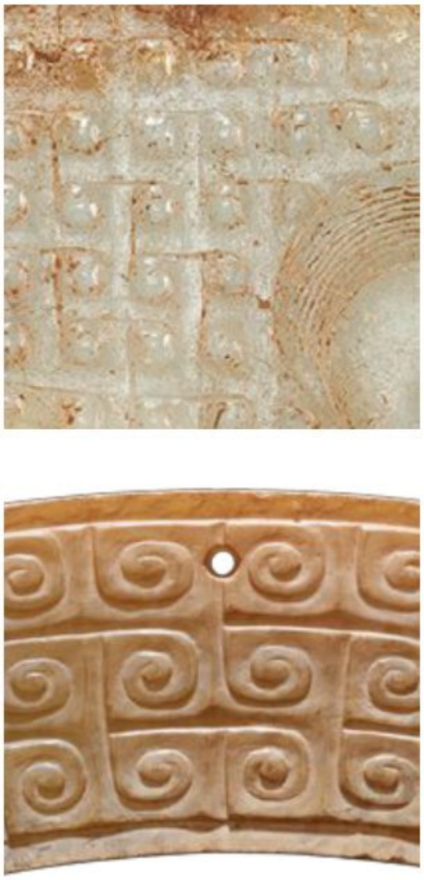
265
Length 9.2 cm
長 9.2 厘米

266-267
TWO *HUANG* WITH DRAGONS AND PATTERN OF LINKED SCROLLS
兩連雲紋龍玉璜

As stated in the description of rings nos.232-234, patterns of linked scrolls are usually seen only on high quality jades. Many of the *huang* 璜 pendants that conclude this section on [redacted]

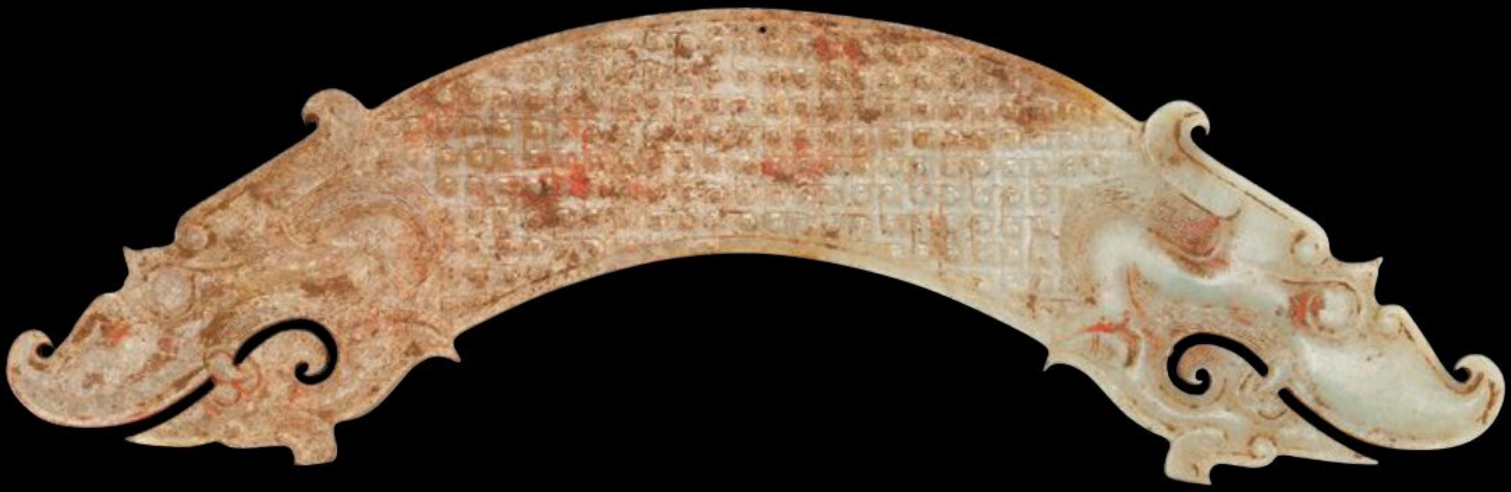
[redacted]

[redacted]

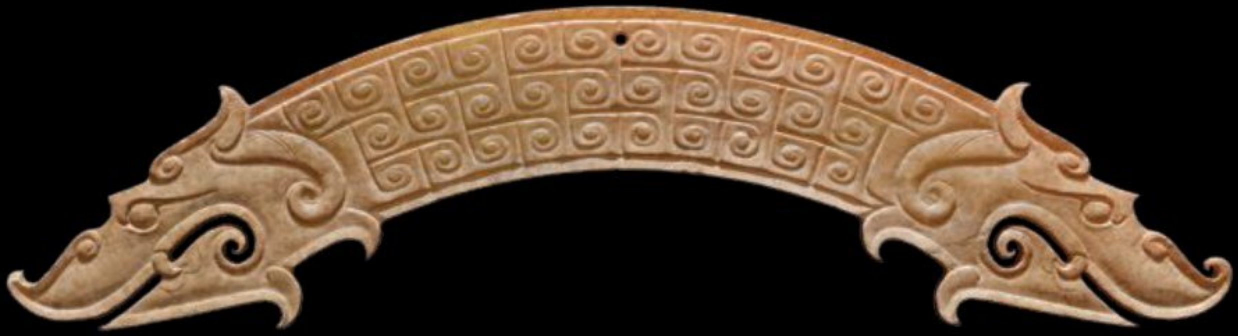


Details showing the pattern of linked scrolls on *huang* nos.266 and 267.

[redacted]



266
Width 21.2 cm
寬 21.2 厘米



267
Width 18.7 cm
寬 18.7 厘米

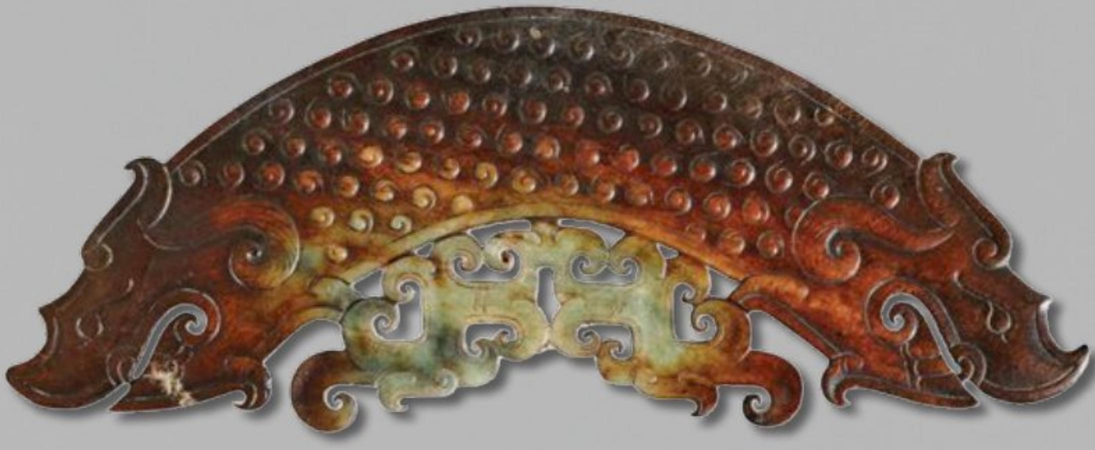
LATE EASTERN ZHOU, 4TH - 3RD CENTURY BC
東周晚期, 公元前4世紀-前3世紀

268-269
TWO *HUANG* WITH DRAGONS, PHOENIXES AND PATTERN OF RAISED CURLS
兩龍鳳穀紋玉璜

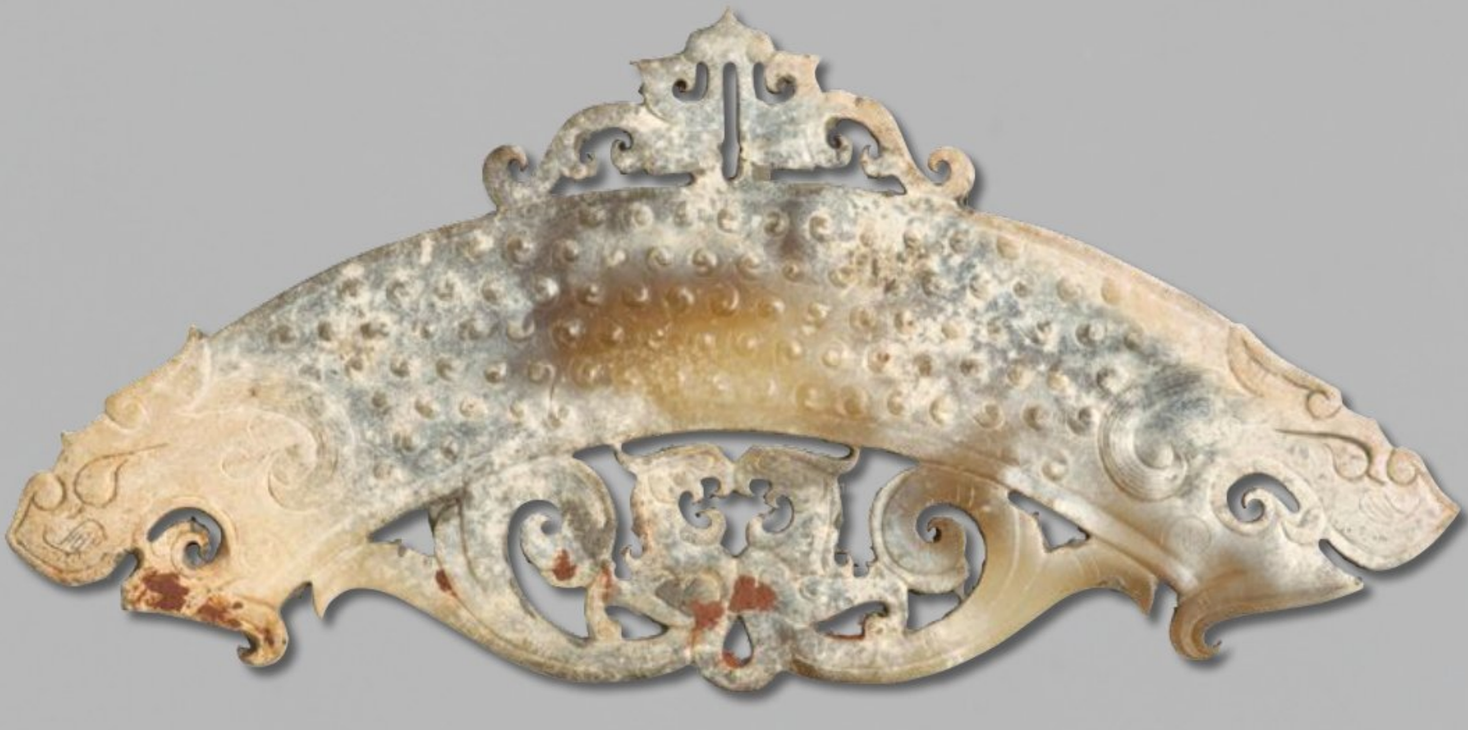
These two *huang* 璜 show a further degree of complexity in design and are far more sophisticated and richer in details than those just seen. They belong to the late Eastern Zhou period and are representative of a style which was [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



268
Width 16.2 cm
寬 16.2 厘米



269
Width 20 cm
寬 20 厘米

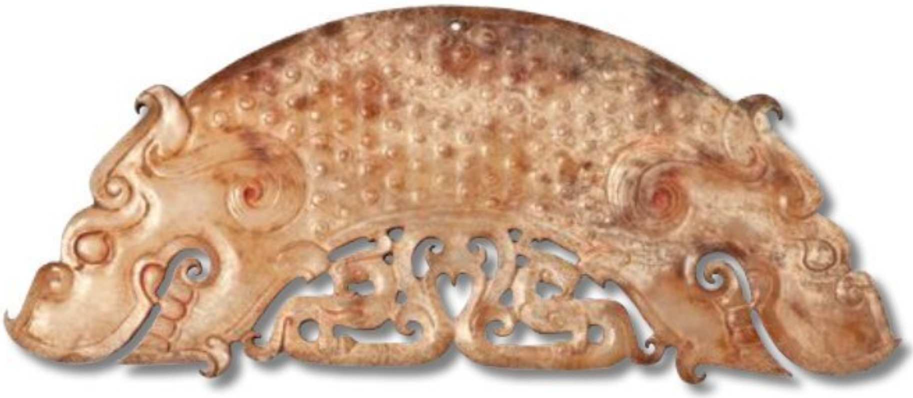
LATE EASTERN ZHOU, 4TH - 3RD CENTURY BC
東周晚期, 公元前4世紀-前3世紀

270-272
THREE *HUANG* WITH DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES
三龍鳳紋玉璜

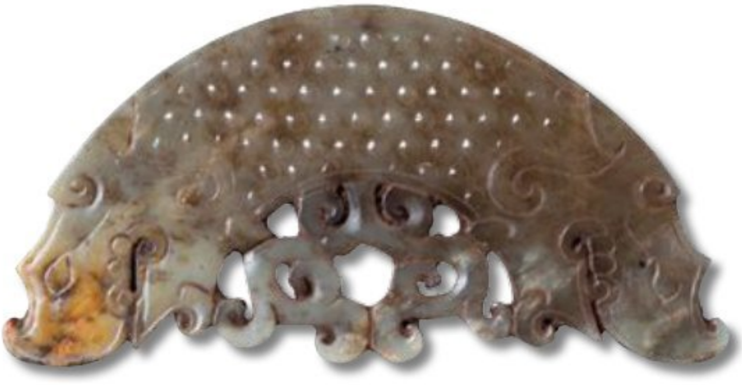
These three *huang* 璜 have a bolder half-disc shape than the elongated versions represented by nos.197 and 199 to 201. They all share the same [redacted]

[redacted]

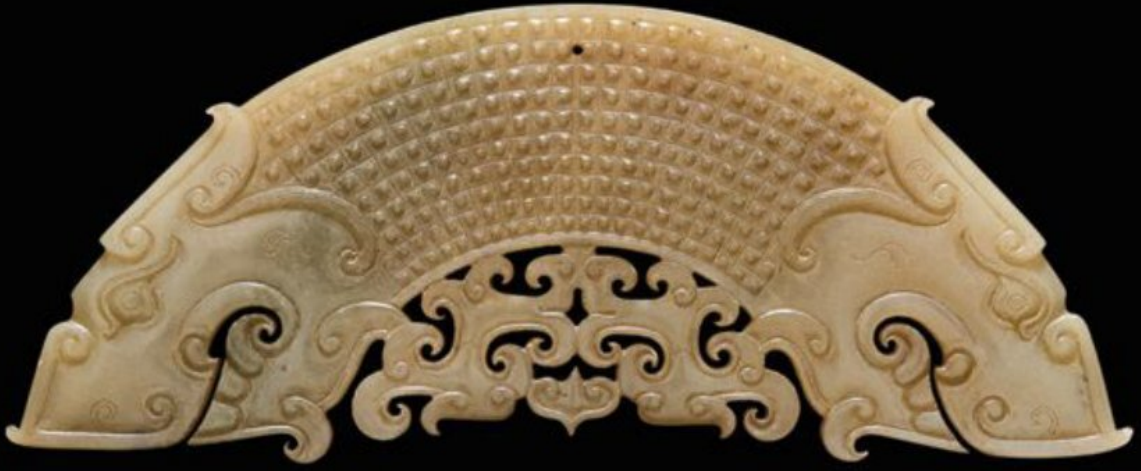
[redacted]



270
Width 14.8 cm
寬 14.8 厘米



272
Width 11.8 cm
寬 11.8 厘米



271
Width 15.5 cm
寬 15.5 厘米

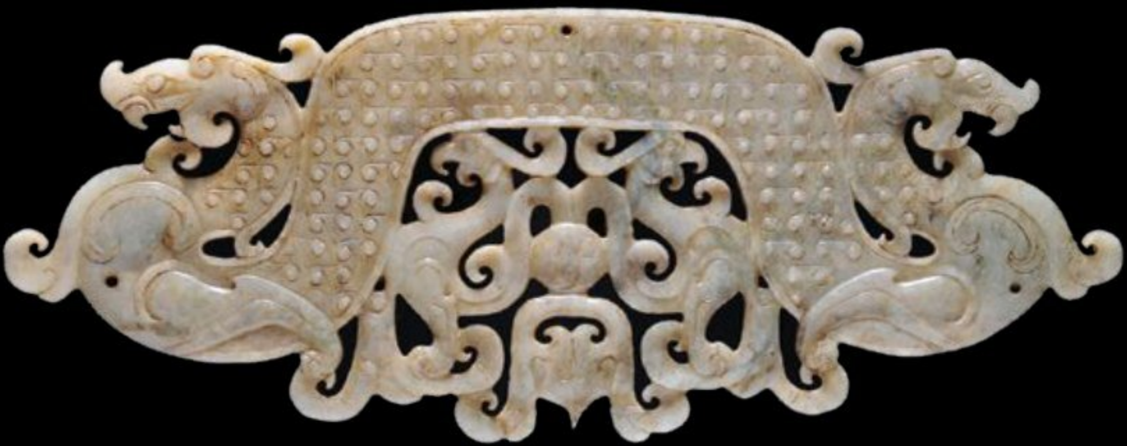
273
HUANG IN OPENWORK WITH DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES
鏤空龍鳳紋玉璜

The section on Eastern Zhou jades ends with this spectacular and elaborate *huang* 璜 that represents the peak of the jade-carving tradition at the end of the Warring States period, and which anticipates the rich and often [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



273
Width 14.5 cm
寬 14.5 厘米

THE APEX OF THE JADE-CARVING TRADITION: PRINCELY JADES OF THE HAN DYNASTY

The jade-carving tradition of ancient China, that began some four thousand years earlier in the Neolithic period, reached its peak during the Han dynasty (206 BC-AD 220), more specifically during the Western Han (206 BC-AD 9), when [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

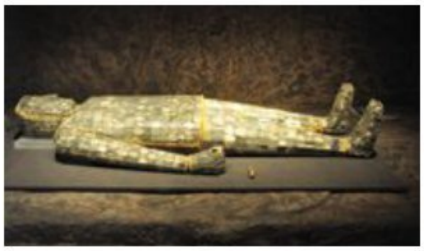


Fig.15
A complete jade shroud found in one of the Han tombs excavated at Xuzhou.

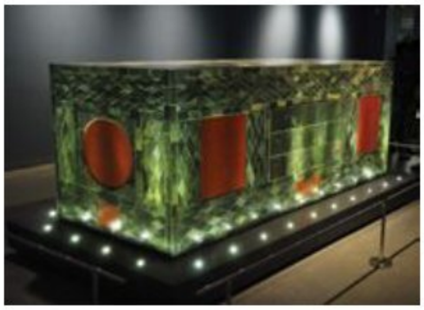
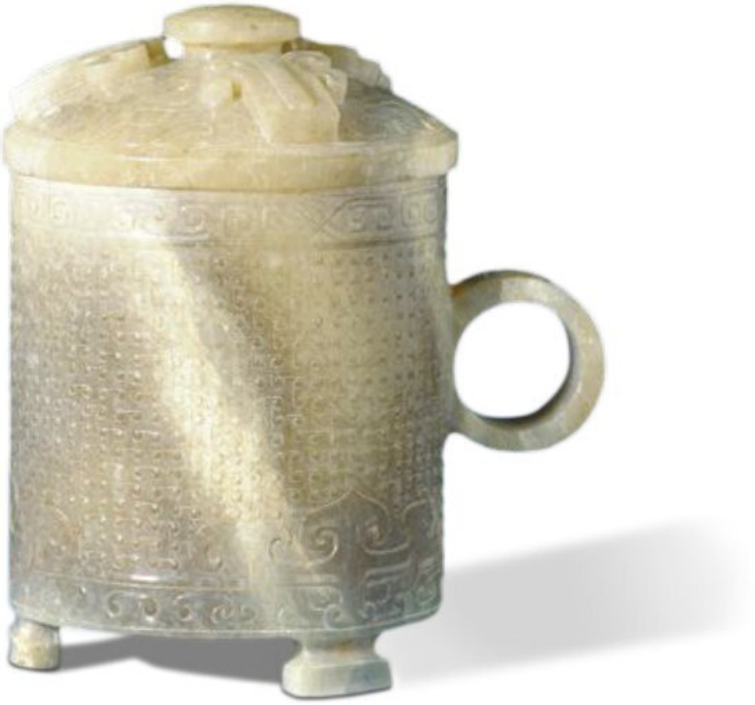


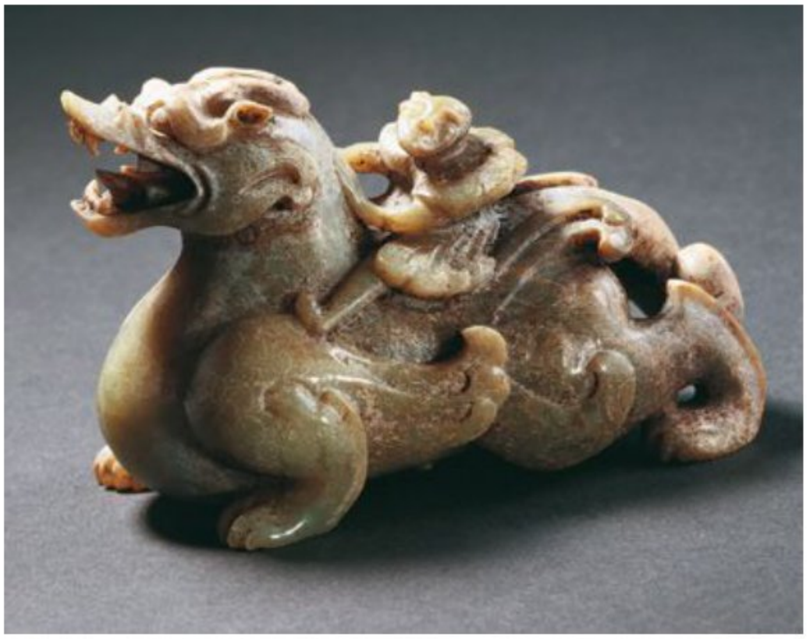
Fig.16
Reconstructed coffin inlaid with jades from the Shizishan tomb at Xuzhou Length 280 cm.



274

JADE *ZUN* CUP WITH MASK MOTIF AND PATTERN OF LINKED SCROLLS

獸面連雲紋玉樽
Height 11.1 cm
高 11.1 厘米



275

IMMORTAL BEING RIDING A *BIXIE*

羽人騎辟邪
HAN DYNASTY, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
漢代, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀
Length 13.4 cm
長 13.4 厘米

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

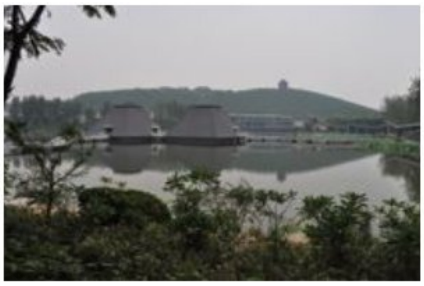


Fig.17
View of the site of the
Beidongshan Han tomb at Xuzhou.

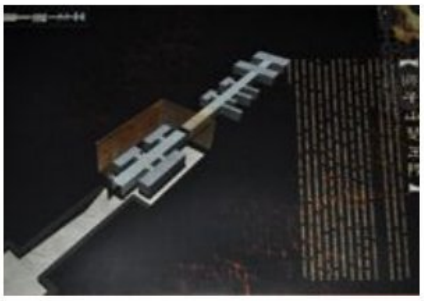


Fig.18
Plan of the Shizishan tomb at Xuzhou.

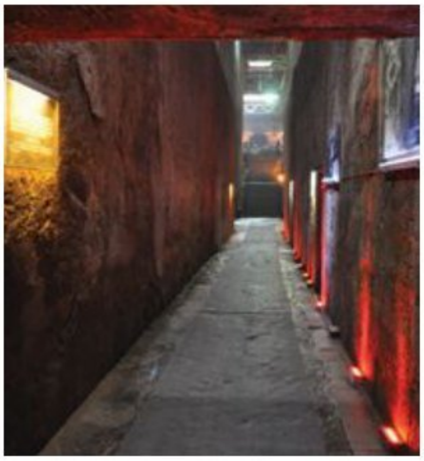
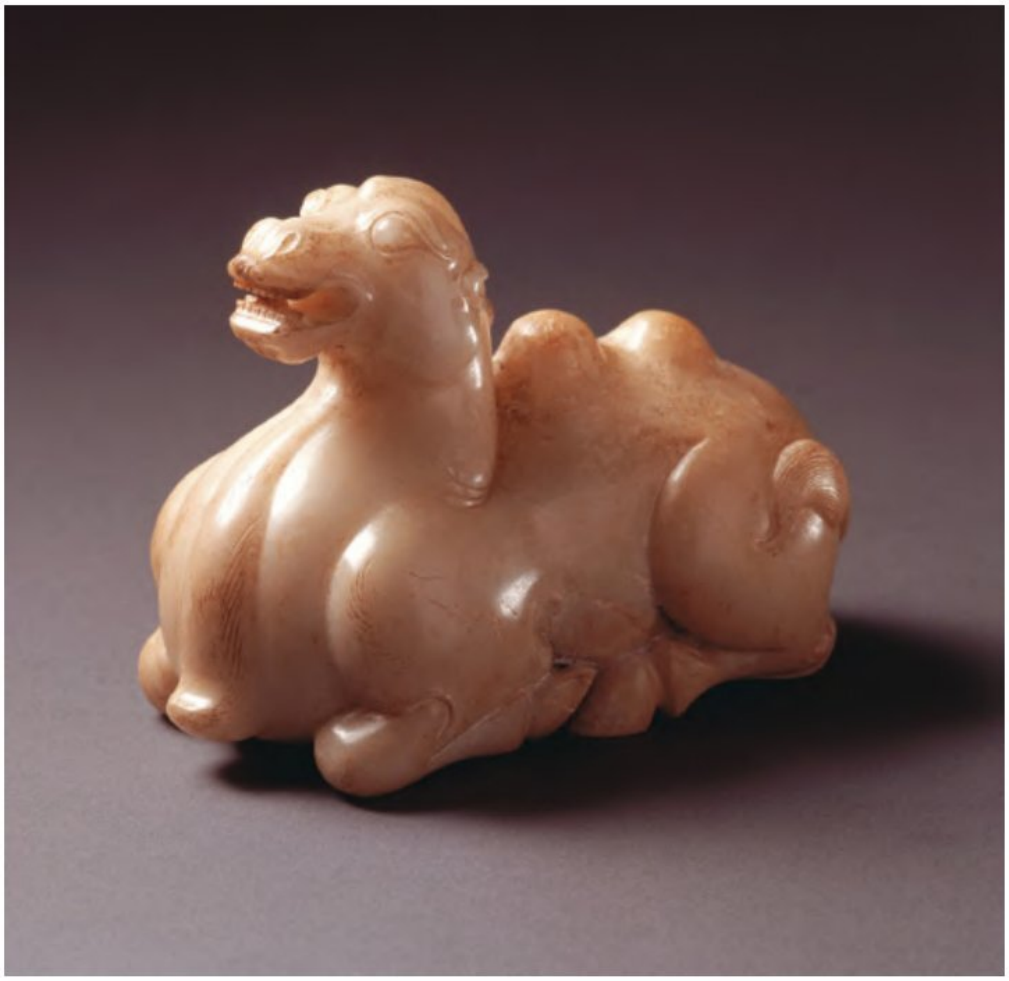


Fig.19
The stone passageway within
the Shizishan tomb at Xuzhou.

[redacted]



276

JADE CAMEL

玉駱駝

HAN DYNASTY, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC

漢代, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

Length 11.1 cm

長 11.1 厘米

EARLY WESTERN HAN DYNASTY, XUZHOU TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢早期, 徐州類型, 公元前2世紀

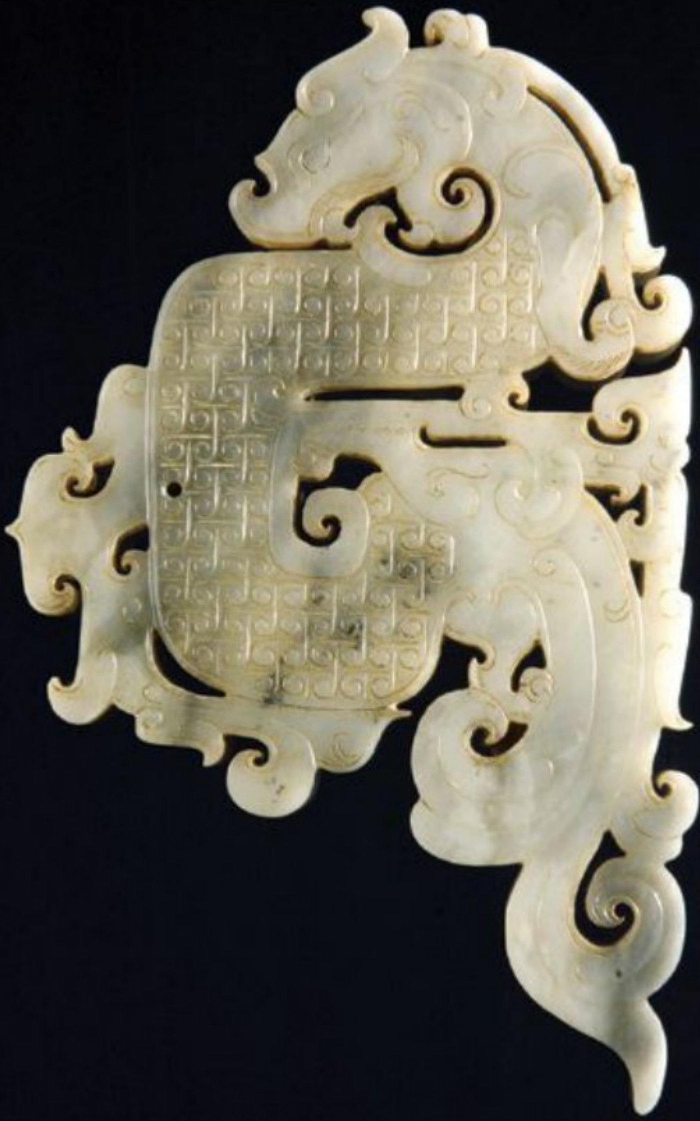
277
DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANT
龍形玉佩

This magnificent dragon-shaped pendant opens the group of jades which are stylistically related to those excavated from the Han princely tombs located in the vicinities of Xuzhou, northern Jiangsu [redacted]

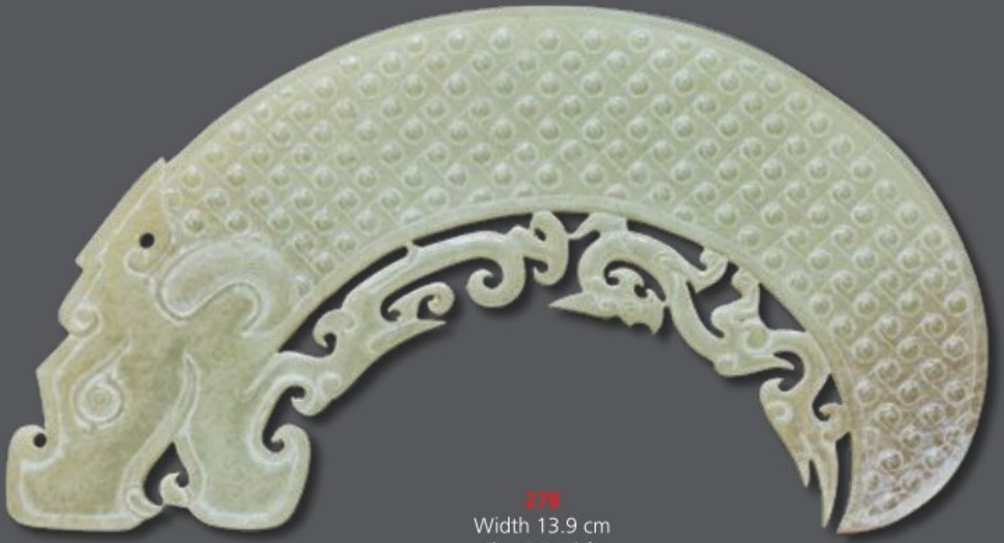
[redacted]

[redacted]

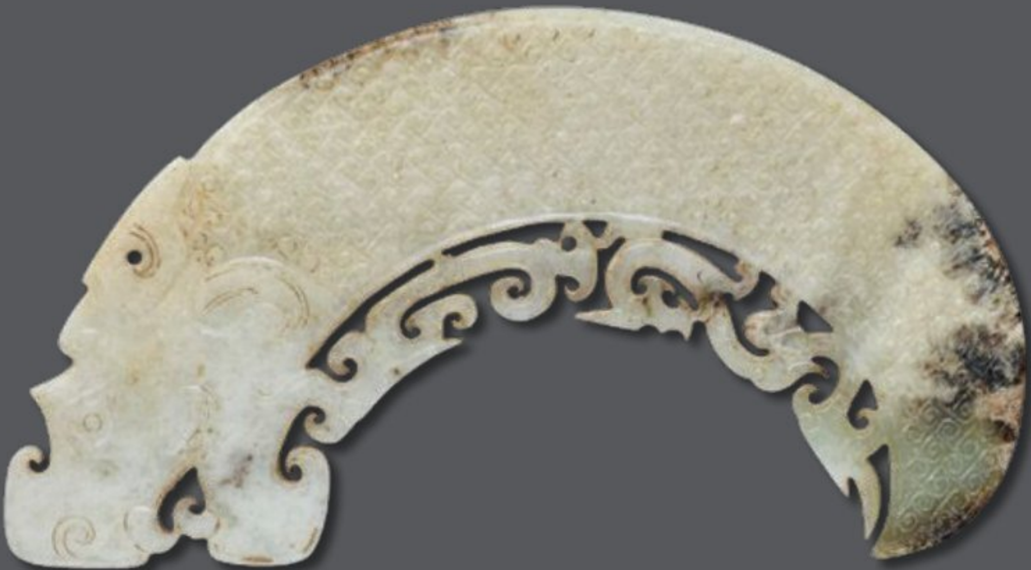
[redacted]



277
Length 12.8 cm
長 12.8 厘米



278
Width 13.9 cm
寬 13.9 厘米



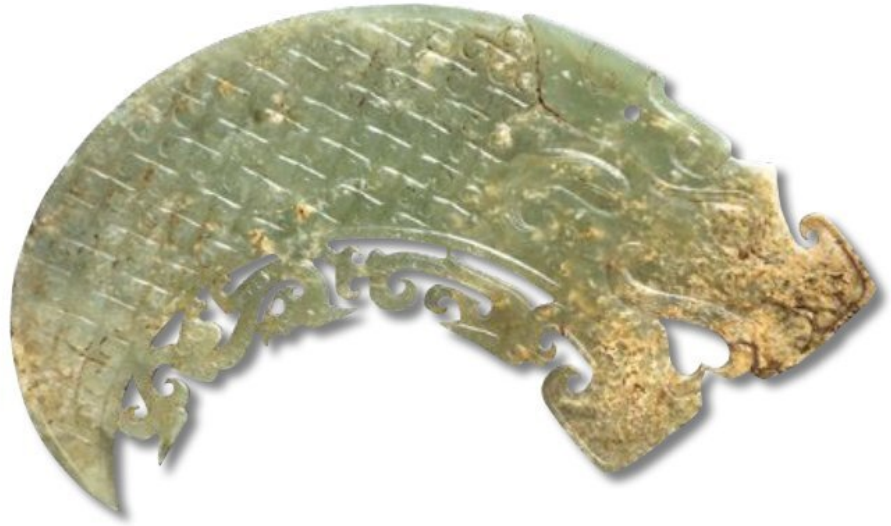
279
Width 14.9 cm
寬 14.9 厘米

EARLY WESTERN HAN DYNASTY, XUZHOU TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢早期, 徐州類型, 公元前2世紀

278-280
THREE DRAGON-SHAPED ORNAMENTS
三龍形玉飾

These three almost identical jades are shaped as arched dragons with feline-looking heads and large, thick bodies which ends in a pointed tip: this form matches that of similar pendants discovered in the Western Han tombs at Xuzhou and it is firstly attested [redacted]

[redacted]



[redacted]

280
Width 10.3 cm
寬 10.3 厘米

EARLY WESTERN HAN DYNASTY, XUZHOU TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC

西漢早期, 徐州類型, 公元前2世紀

281-282

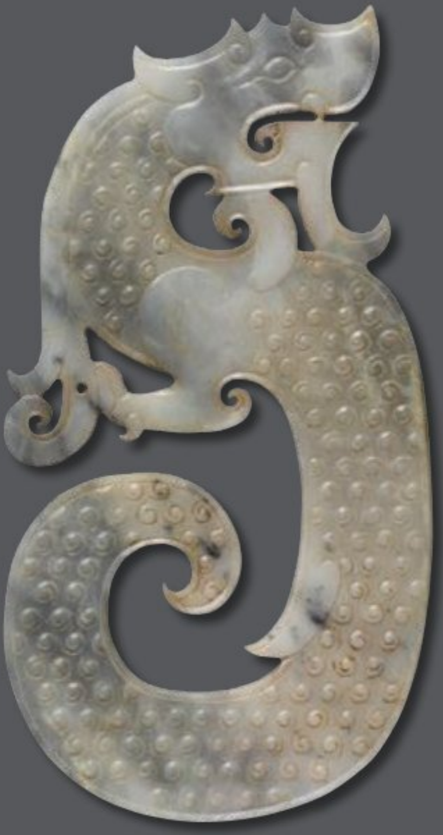
TWO DRAGON-SHAPED PENDANTS

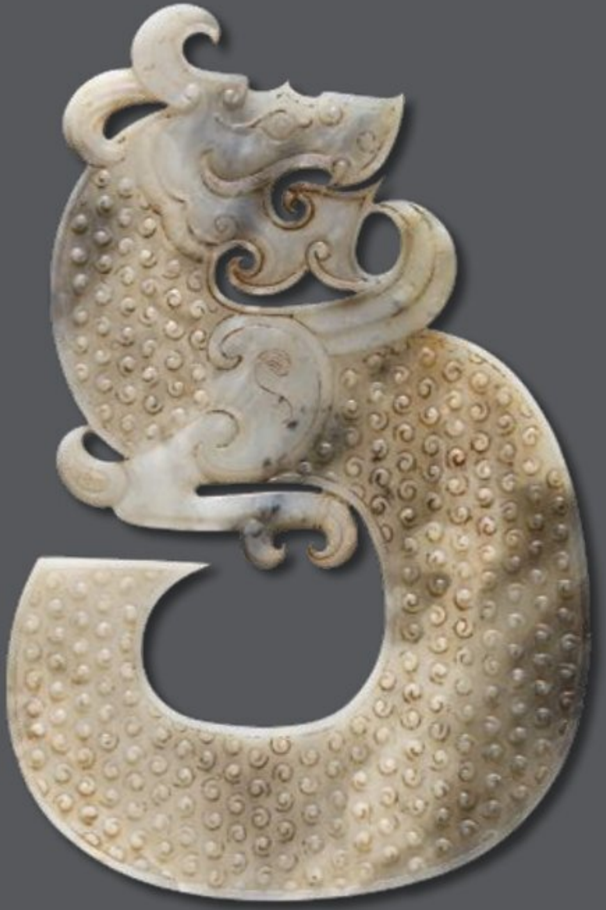
兩夔龍玉佩

These two beautiful pendants are carved in the shape of imposing dragons represented in profile and match similar jades found in the early Western Han tombs at Xuzhou. The long, sinuous [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





281
Length 12 cm
長 12 厘米

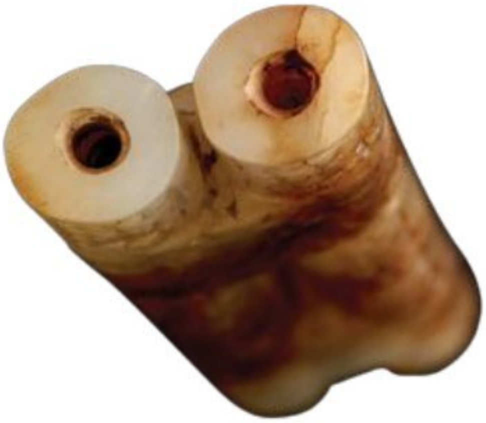
282
Length 12.8 cm
長 12.8 厘米

283
JADE CARVED IN THE SHAPE OF A DOUBLE TUBE
雙管形玉器

This unusual jade is shaped as two parallel tubes of equal length that are joined near the extremities: its function is unknown but it is possible that it was used to hold chopsticks. This shape is documented only amongst the jades found in the Western Han tombs at Xuzhou.

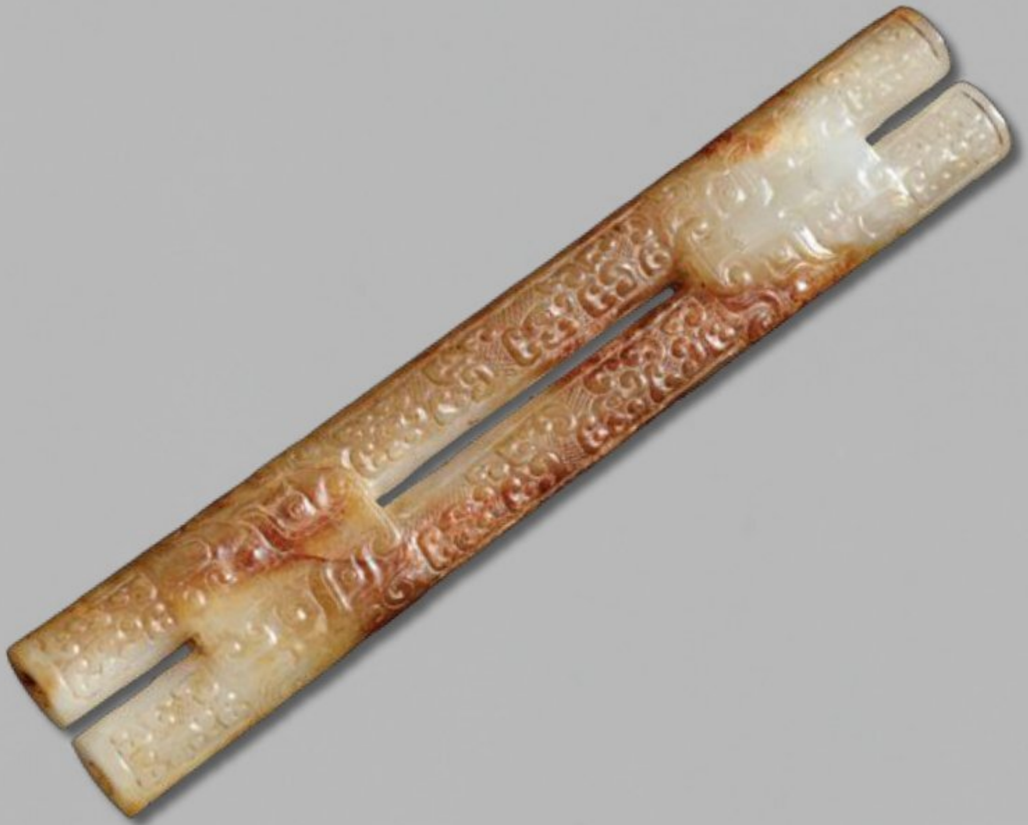
[redacted]

[redacted]



283
The double tube seen from the top.

[redacted]



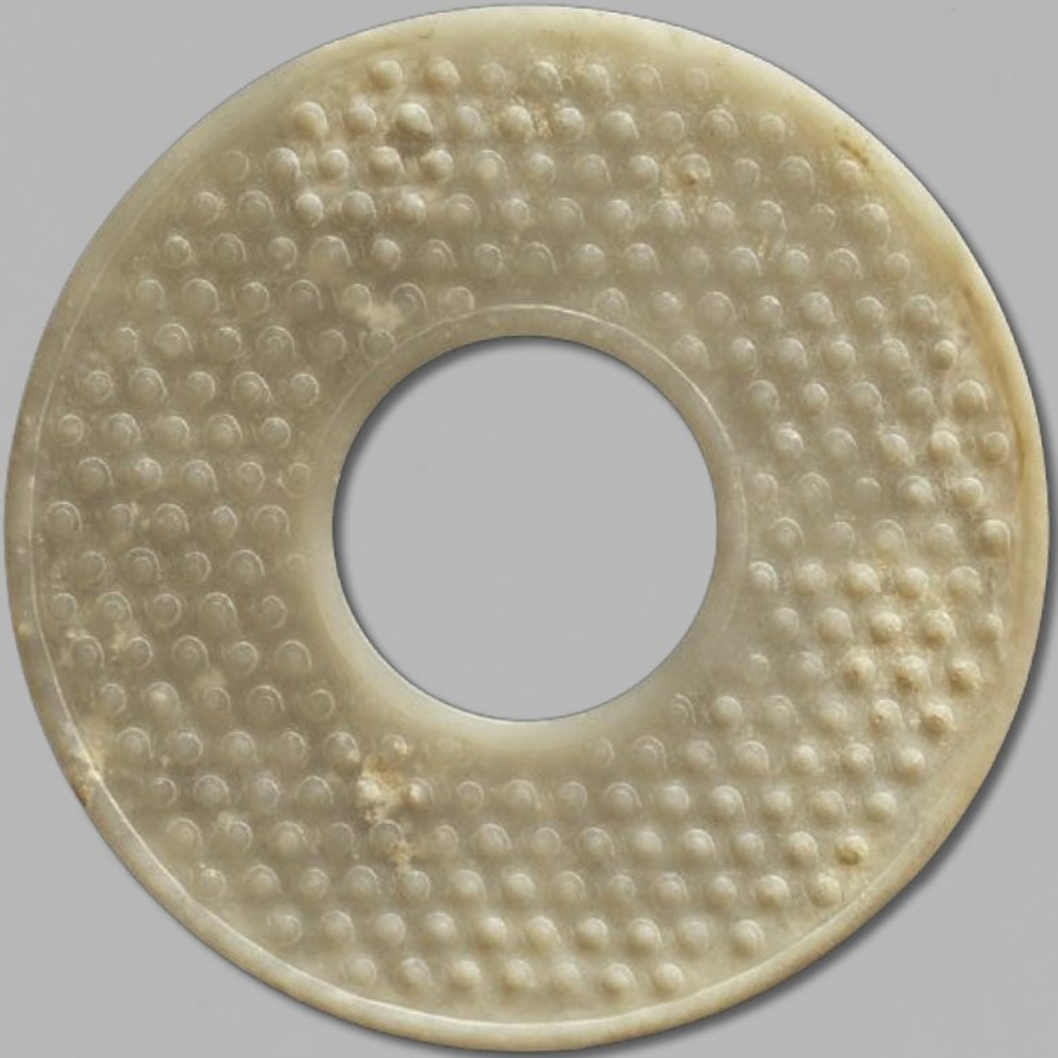
283
Length 13.2 cm
長 13.2 厘米

284
DISC WITH DECORATION OF CURLS
穀紋玉璧

This very elegant disc is carved out of a fine quality of nephrite, probably from the Central Asian region of Khotan. The translucent jade is almost pure white with virtually no impurities: only a [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

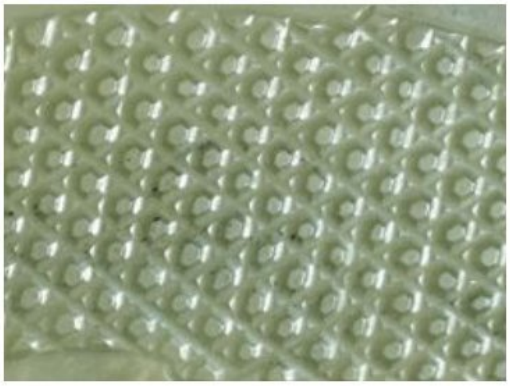


284
Diameter 12.7 cm
直徑 12.7 厘米

285
PAIR OF *HUANG* WITH PATTERN OF HEXAGONS
兩蒲紋玉璜

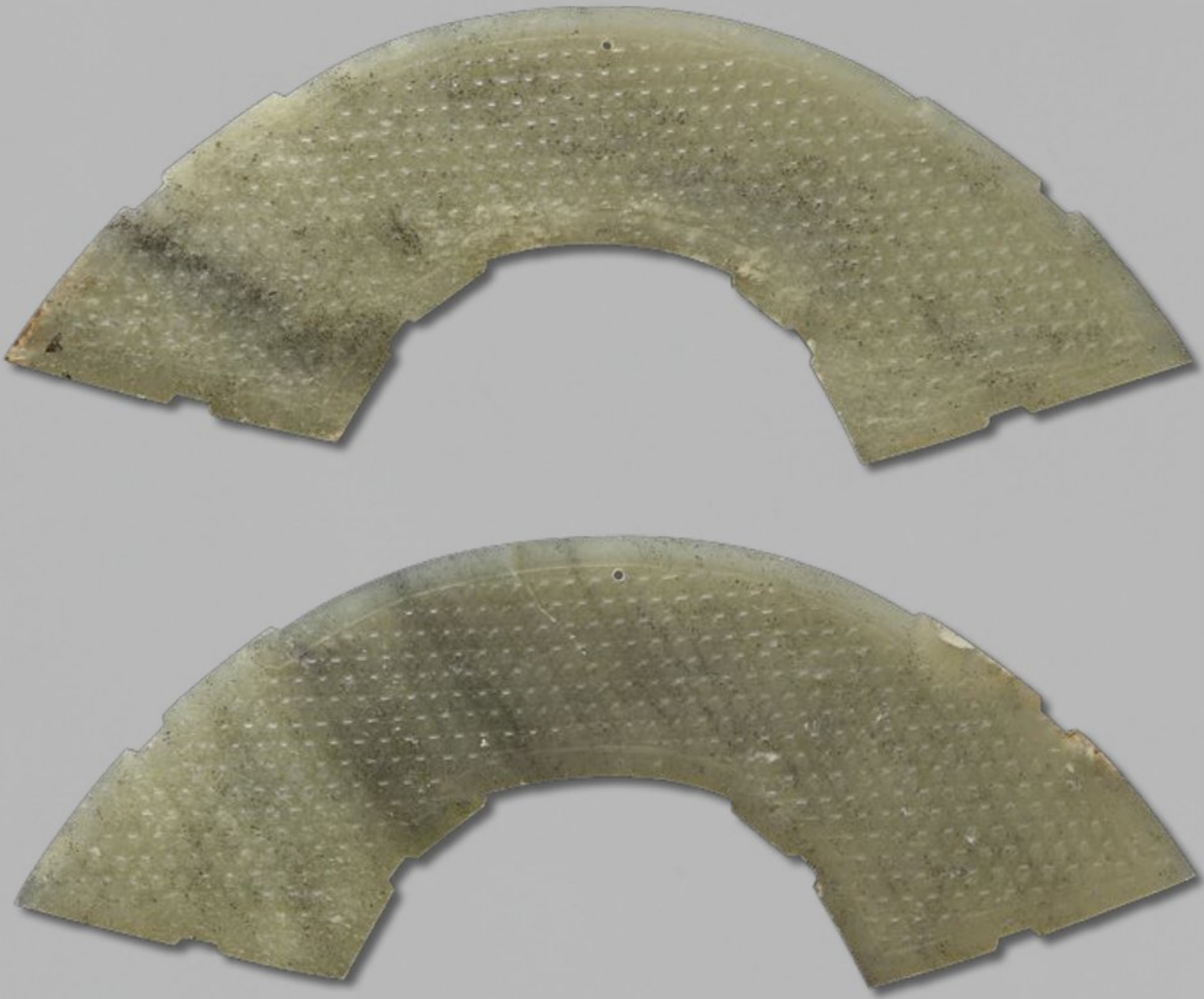
This pair of twin *huang* 璜 pendants is carved from a type of very translucent, pale green jade which almost looks like glass. The stone has only minor inclusions in the form of tiny, grey spots evenly distributed in the stone. However, a small area close to the border of one *huang* [redacted]

[redacted]



Detail of the decoration on *huang* no.285.

[redacted]



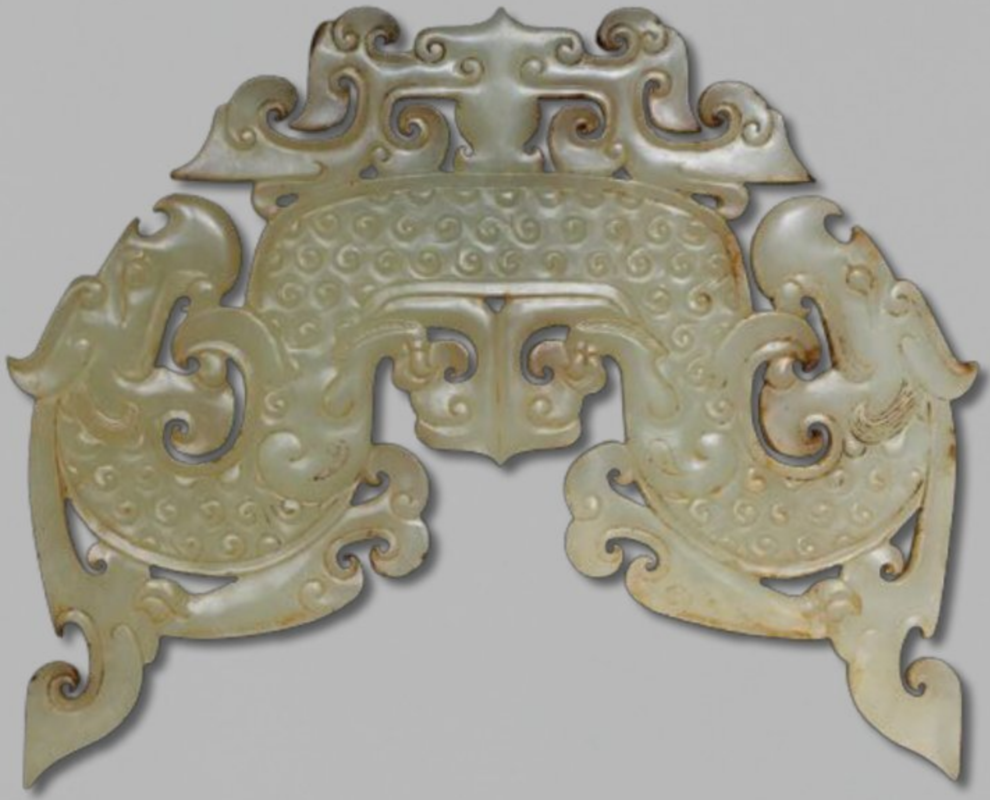
285
Width 17.5 cm
寬 17.5 厘米

EARLY WESTERN HAN DYNASTY, XUZHOU TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢早期, 徐州類型, 公元前2世紀

286
HUANG WITH DRAGONS
雙龍玉璜

Carved in pure white jade, this elegant, finely detailed and richly decorated pendant ends the group of jades that are stylistically similar to those discovered in the early Western Han princely tombs excavated near Xuzhou, [redacted]

[redacted]



286
Width 12.4 cm
寬 12.4 厘米

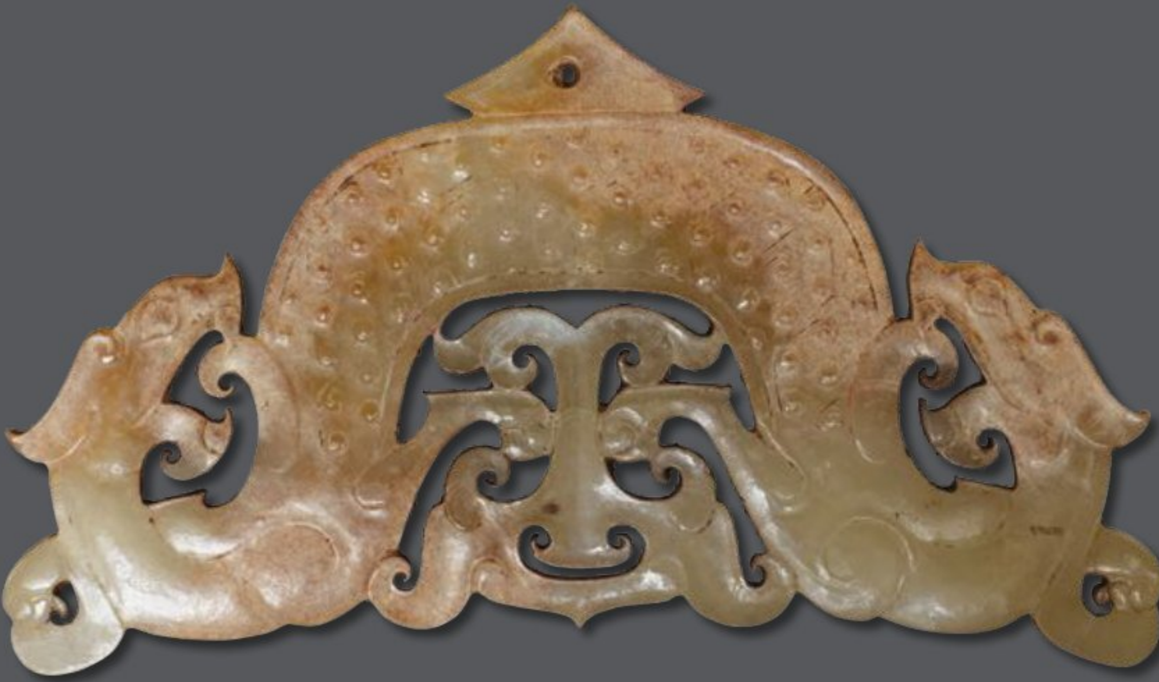
LATE EASTERN ZHOU, 3RD CENTURY BC
東周晚期, 公元前3世紀

287
OPENWORK *HUANG* WITH DRAGONS
鏤空雙龍形玉璜

This pendant is similar to the previous ornament but much less elaborate and slightly earlier in date: it represents a late Eastern Zhou type from which the previous Western [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



297
Width 12.3 cm
寬 12.3 厘米

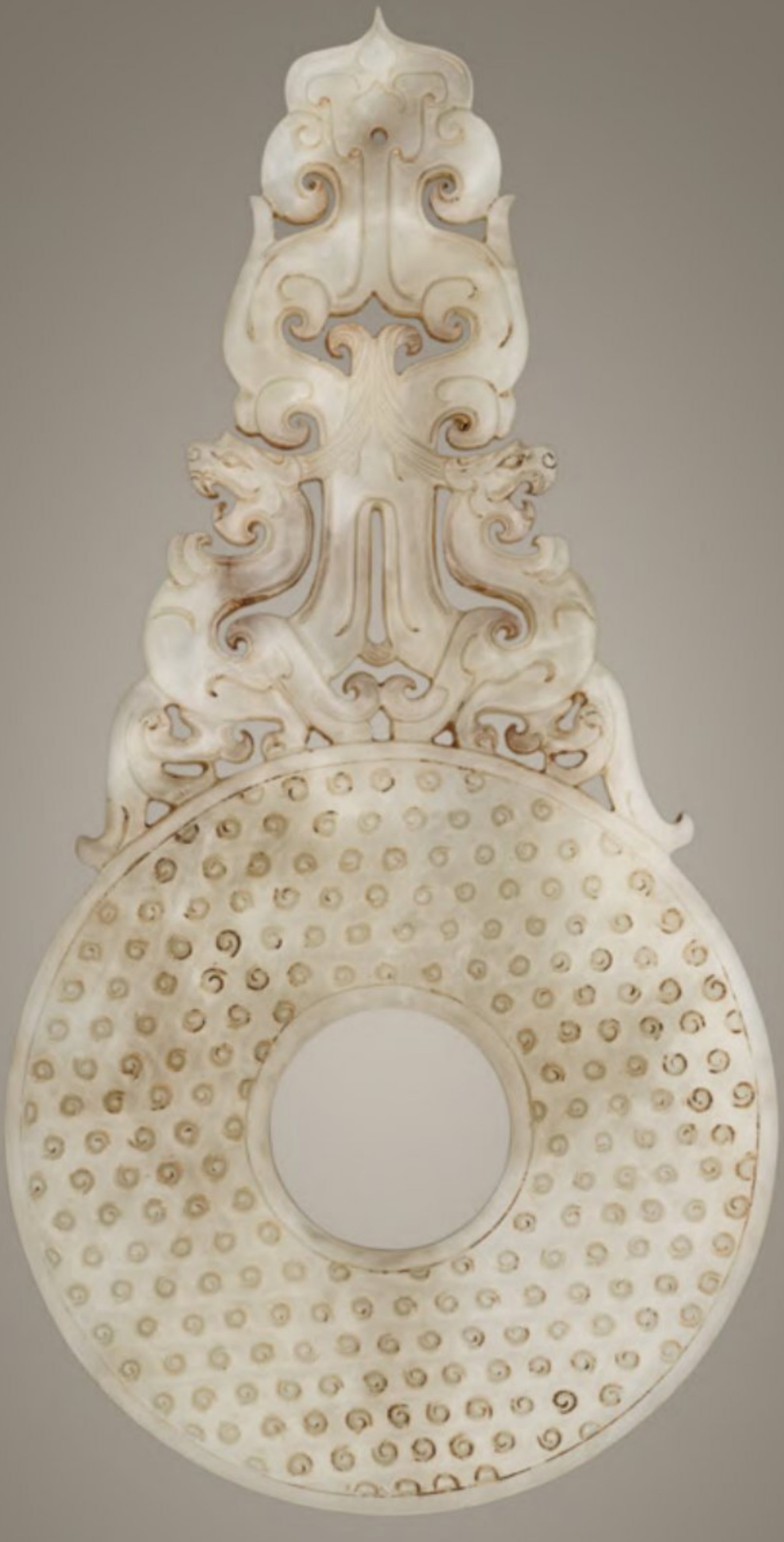
WESTERN HAN, MANCHENG TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢, 滿城類型, 公元 前2世紀

288
DISC WITH PAIR OF DRAGONS AND PATTERN OF RAISED CURLS
雙龍穀紋玉璧

This superb disc, surmounted by two addorsed dragons amidst volutes, matches one of the most famous of all jades ever found so far in China: an identical carving was discovered in 1968 in the tomb of Liu Sheng, a prince [redacted]

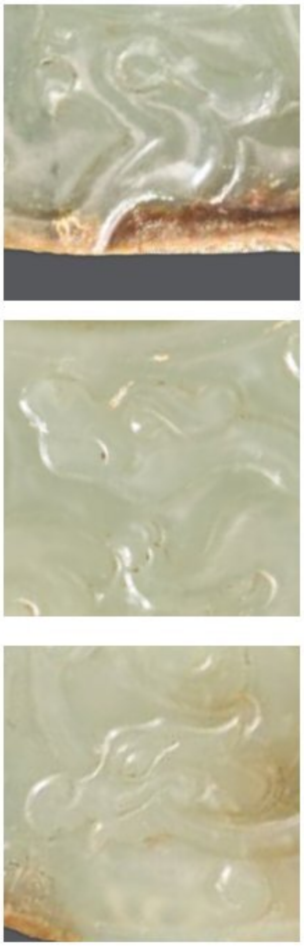
[redacted]

[redacted]



288
Length 15.9 cm
長 15.9 厘米

WESTERN HAN, BEISHANTOU TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢, 北山頭類型, 公元前2世紀



Detail of three dragon heads on ring no.289.

289
RING DECORATED WITH FABULOUS BEASTS AMIDST CLOUDS
神獸穿行于流雲紋玉環

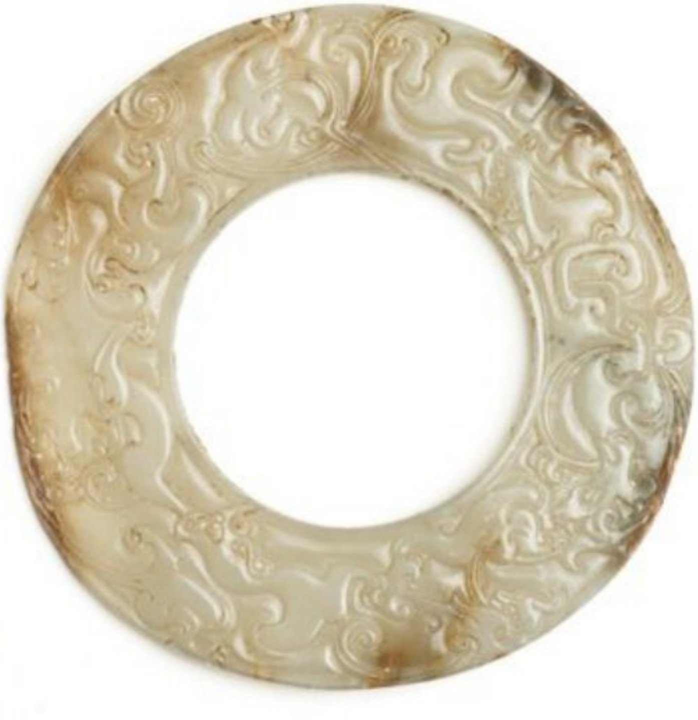
290
JADE CARVING WITH DRAGON AND PHOENIX
龍鳳形玉佩

Both jades shown here have counterparts in similar carvings discovered in a Western Han tomb at Beishantou, Chaohu, Anhui province. Excavated between 1996 and 1998, this tomb probably [redacted]

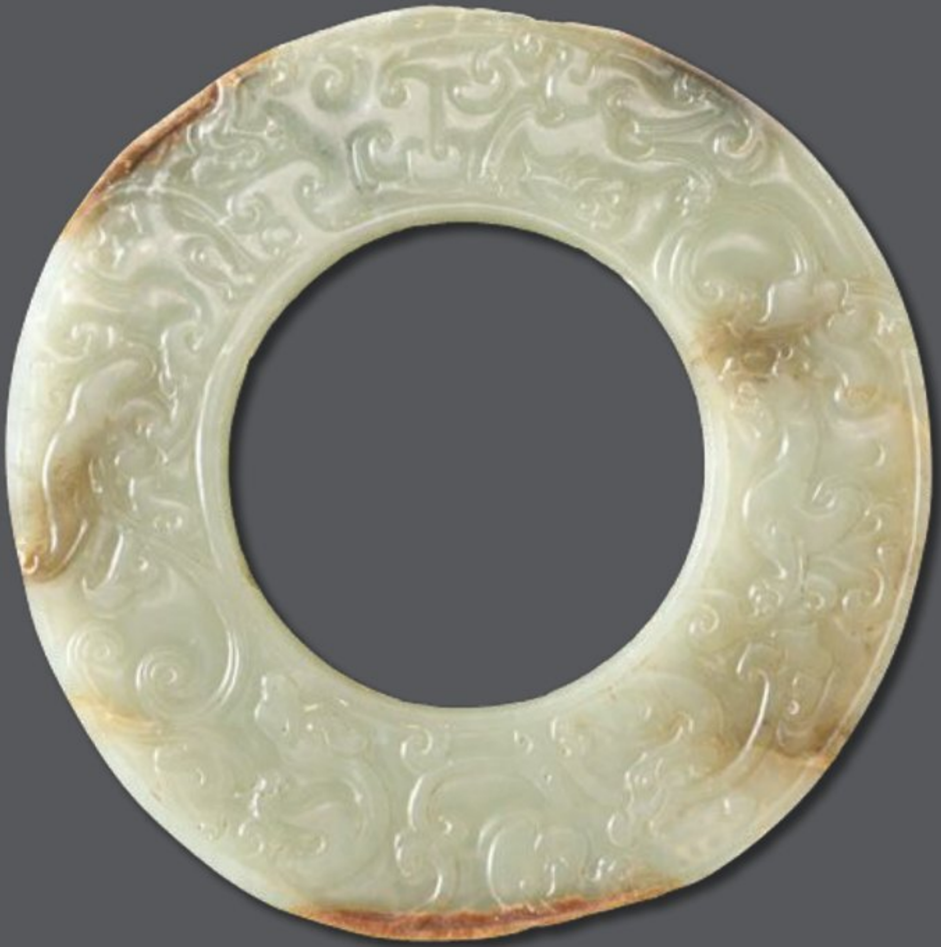
[redacted]

[redacted]

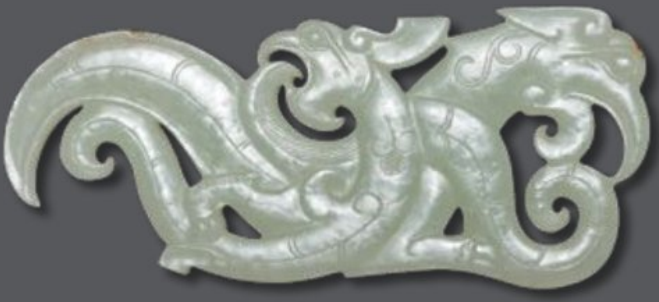
[redacted]



The back of ring no.289.



289
Diameter 9.3 cm
直徑 9.3 厘米



290
Width 6.7 cm
寬 6.7 厘米

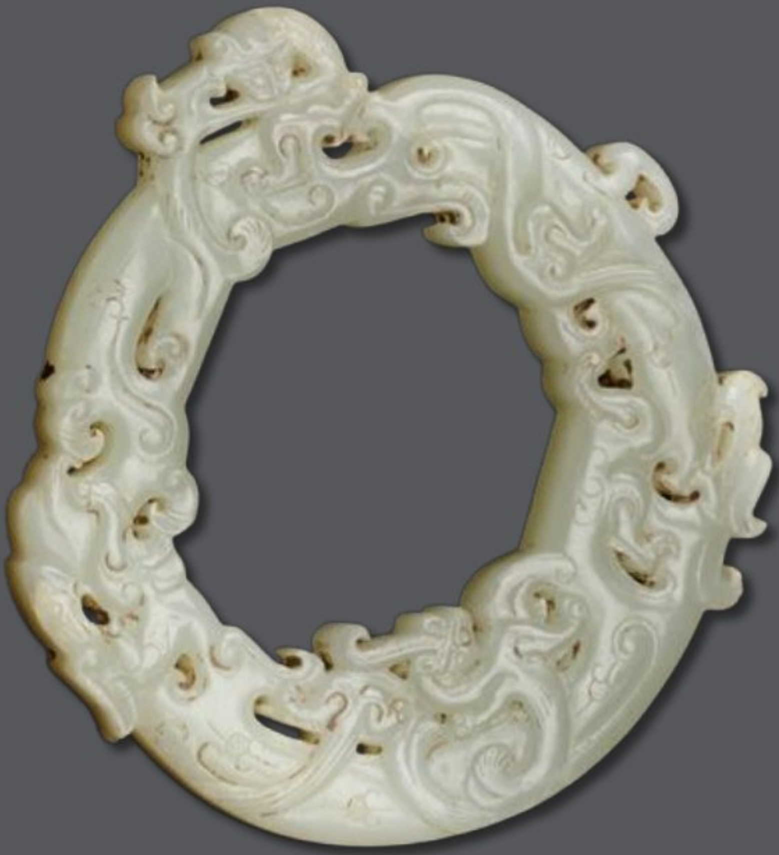
WESTERN HAN, NANYUE TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢, 南越類型, 公元前2世紀

291
OPENWORK RING WITH DECORATION OF DRAGONS
鏤空龍紋玉環

This ring, carved in openwork from pure white jade, introduces a group of carvings which are stylistically similar to those from the 2nd century BC tomb of the King of Nanyue, in Guangzhou, Guangdong [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



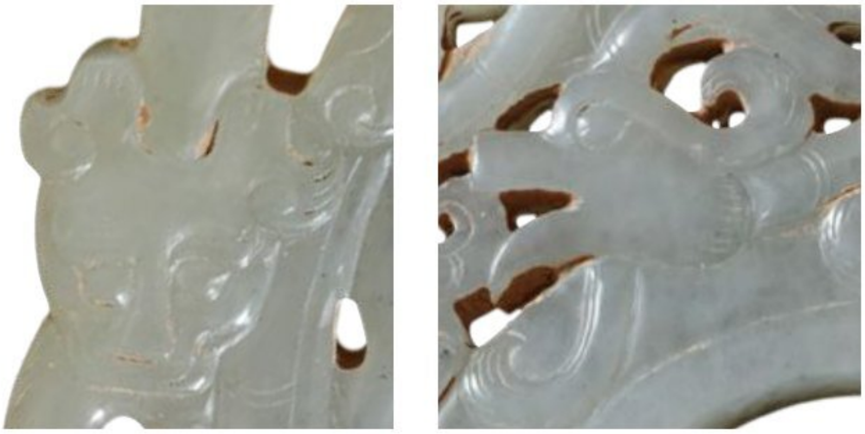
291
Width 7 cm
寬 7 厘米

WESTERN HAN, NANYUE TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢, 南越類型, 公元前2世紀

292
OPENWORK DISC DECORATED WITH DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES
鏤空龍鳳紋玉璧

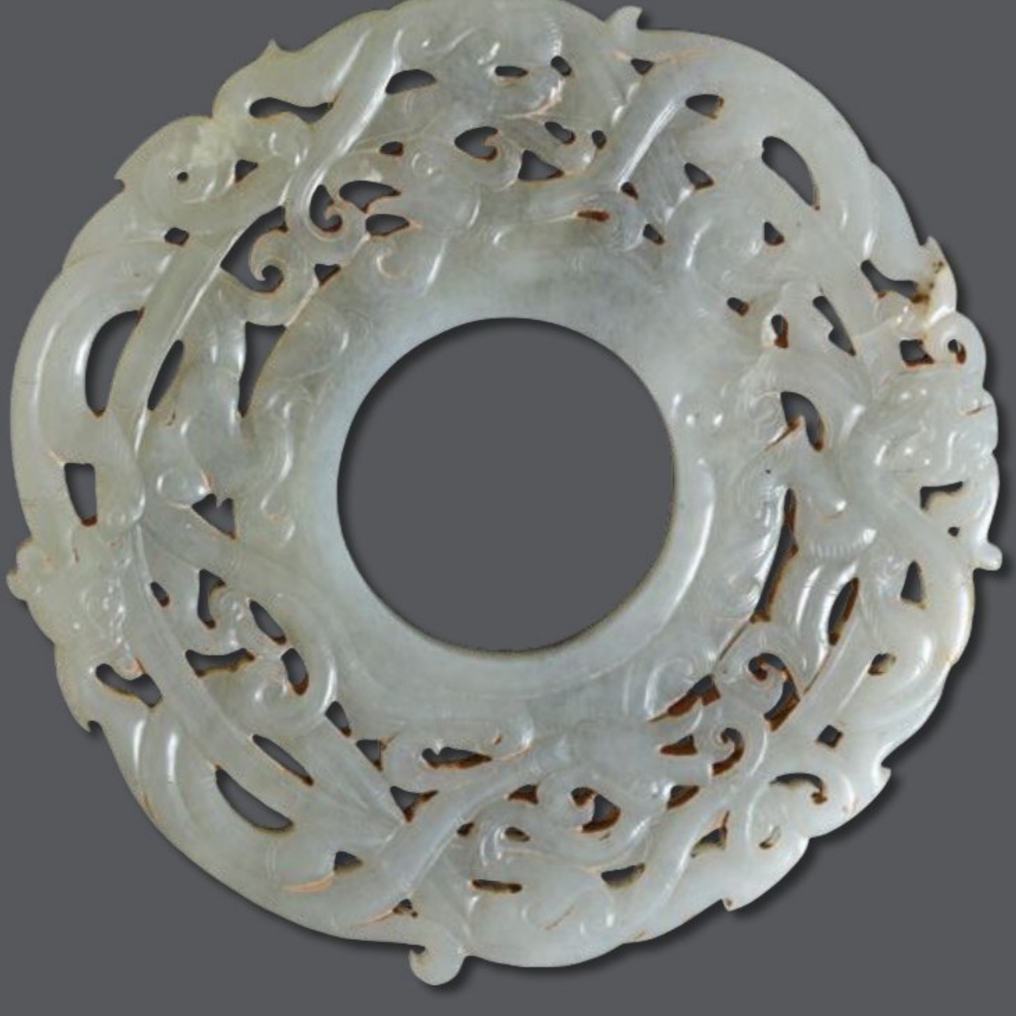
The extensive use of the openwork technique, the complexity of the design and the pure white colour of the jade make it difficult to decipher the decoration carved on this fine disc. The intricate pattern [redacted]

[redacted]



Details of the dragon and phoenix carved on disc no.292.

[redacted]



292
Diameter 10.3 cm
直徑 10.3 厘米

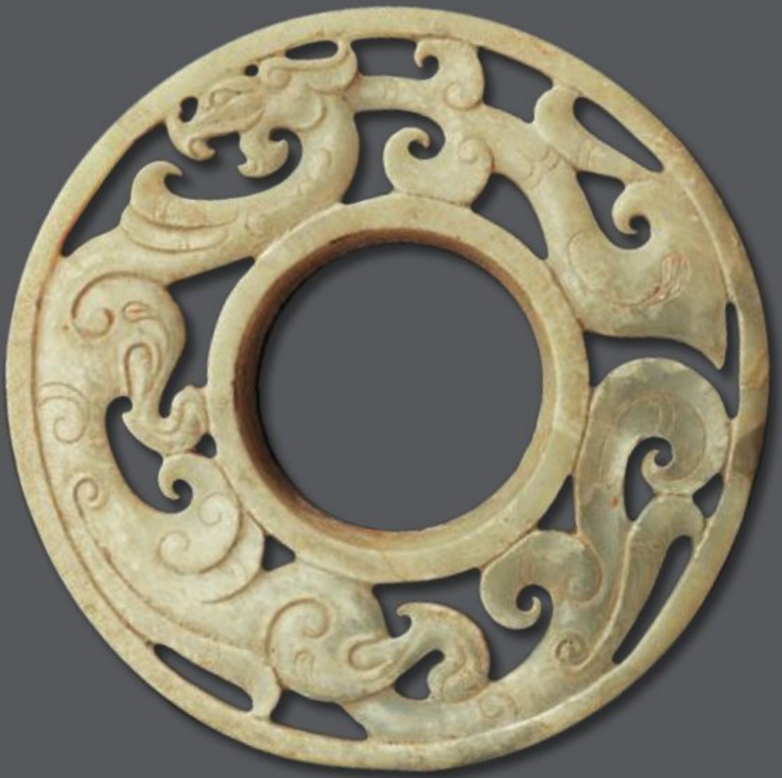
WESTERN HAN, NANYUE TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢, 南越類型, 公元前2世紀

293
HUAN RING WITH DRAGON CARVED IN OPENWORK
鏤空龍紋玉環

Similarly to the following, larger disc, this ring is entirely carved in openwork with the image of a dragon in profile sandwiched between the inner and outer borders. [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



293
Diameter 7 cm
直徑 7 厘米

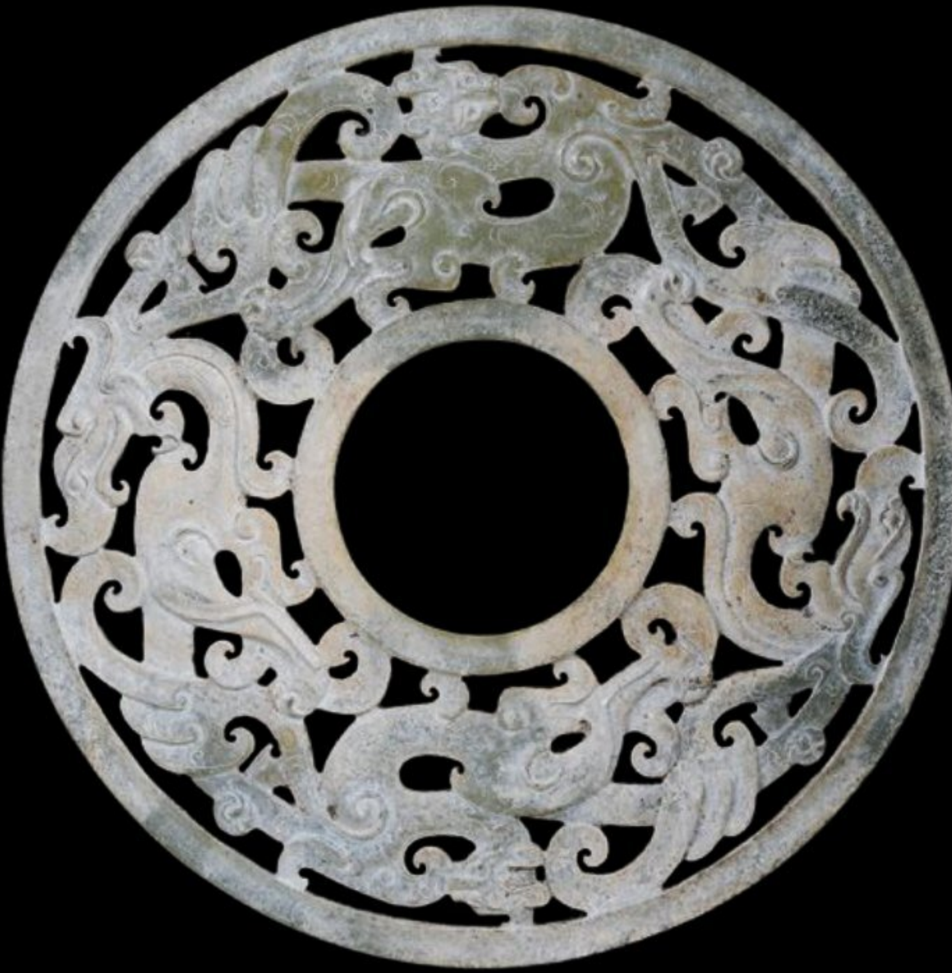
WESTERN HAN, NANYUE TYPE, 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢, 南越類型, 公元前2世紀

294
BI DISC WITH OPENWORK DESIGN OF DRAGONS AND HORNLESS *CHI* DRAGONS
鏤空雙龍雙螭紋玉璧

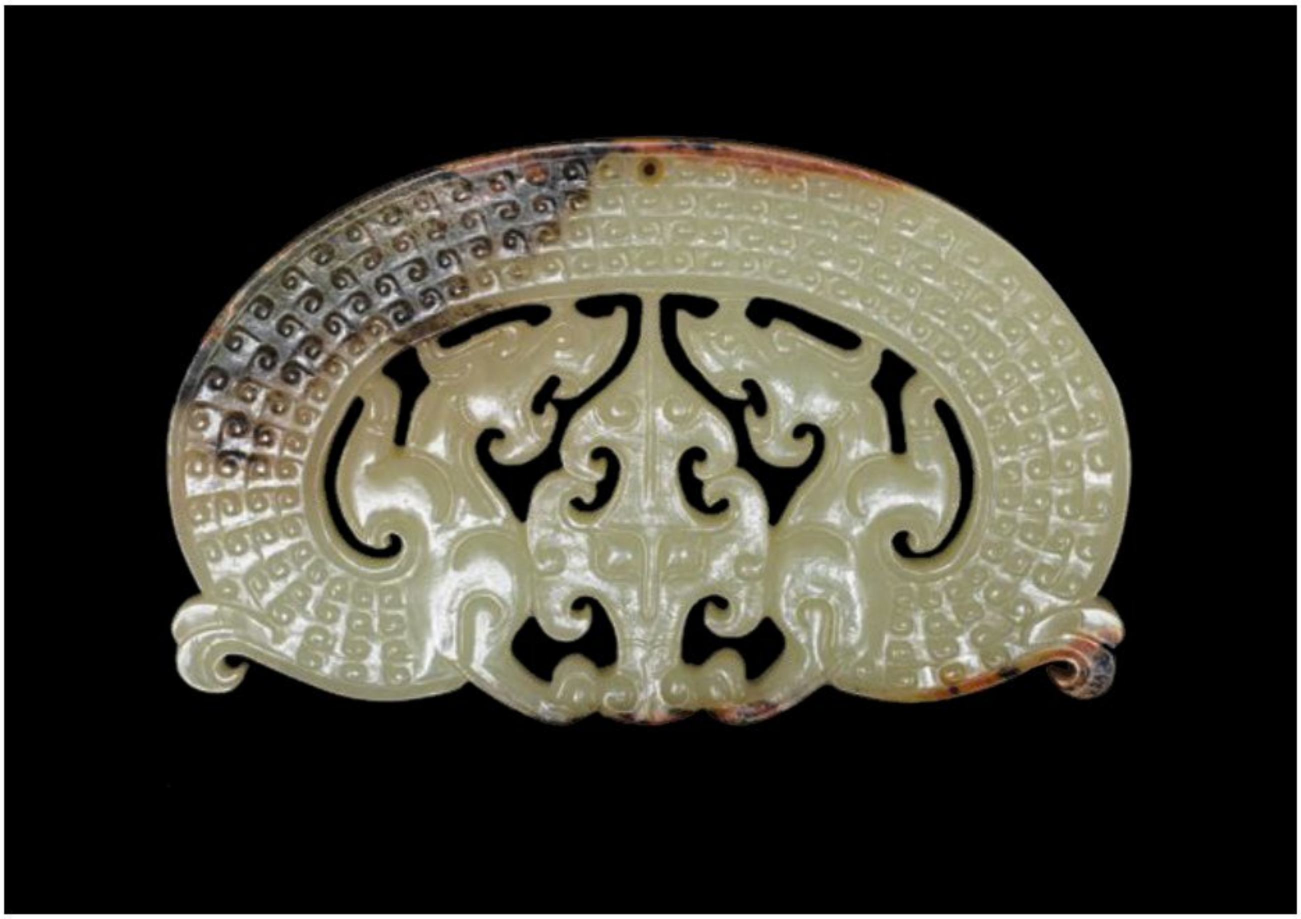
This fine openwork disc is similar to the previous one, but in this case the pattern is formed by four dragons framed between two plain, narrow bands that mark the inner and outer borders of the *bi* 璧. Two [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



294
Diameter 12.8 cm
直徑 12.8 厘米

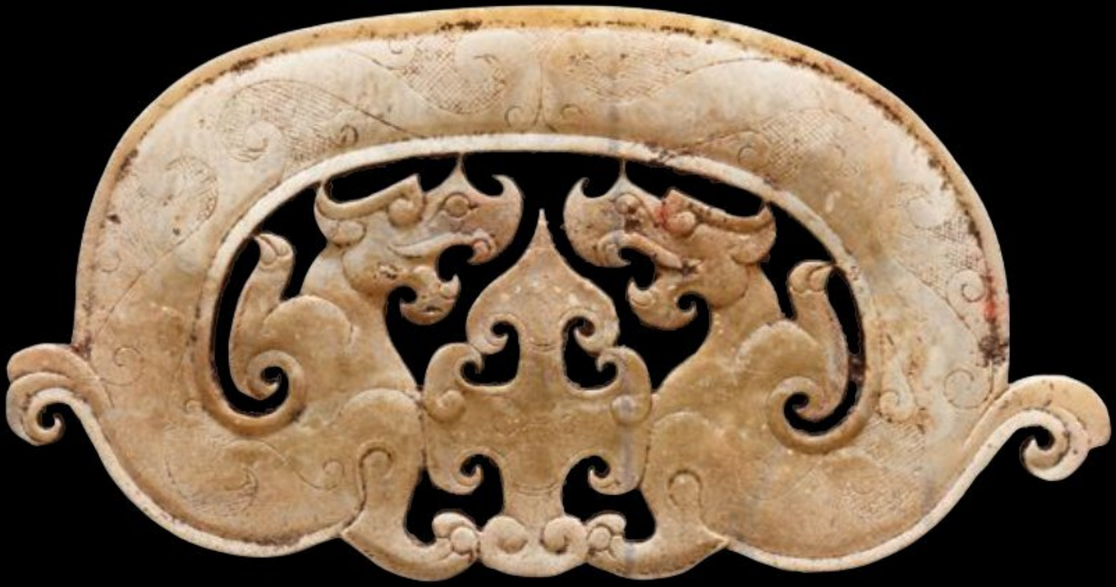


295
Width 12.5 cm
寬 12.5 厘米

295-296
TWO OPENWORK PENDANTS WITH DOUBLE DRAGON DESIGN
兩鏤空雙龍形玉佩

These two almost identical pendants are carved in a peculiar shape. Two rampant, confronted feline-looking dragons share the same arched body that frames the heads and front limbs of the animals: the body of no.295 is decorated with a dense pattern of tight small spirals in relief, while that of no.296 has finely incised volutes filled with an etched checkerboard [redacted]

[redacted]



[redacted]

296
Width 12.8 cm
寬 12.8 厘米

EASTERN ZHOU, 6TH CENTURY BC - EARLY WESTERN HAN, 3RD-2ND CENTURY BC
東周, 公元前6世紀 - 西漢早期, 公元前3世紀-前2世紀

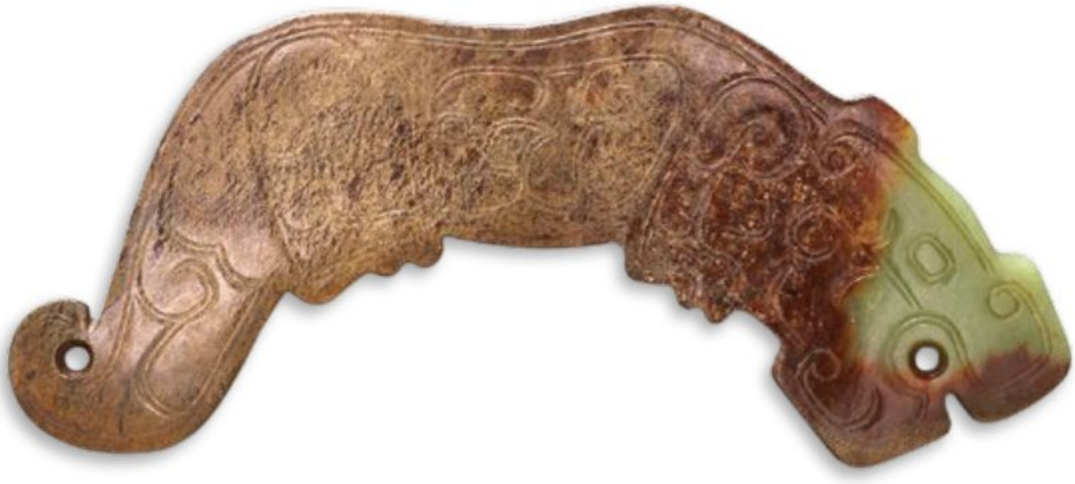
297-298
TWO TIGER-SHAPED PENDANTS
兩虎形玉佩

As stated in the description of no.194, tiger-shaped jades were in use from the 8th to the 6th century BC, and then again at the beginning of the Han dynasty, in the 3rd-2nd century BC. The two examples illustrated here are representative of these two different periods and show the developments over time of this peculiar category of jade tigers which, in the Han period, became [redacted]

[redacted]

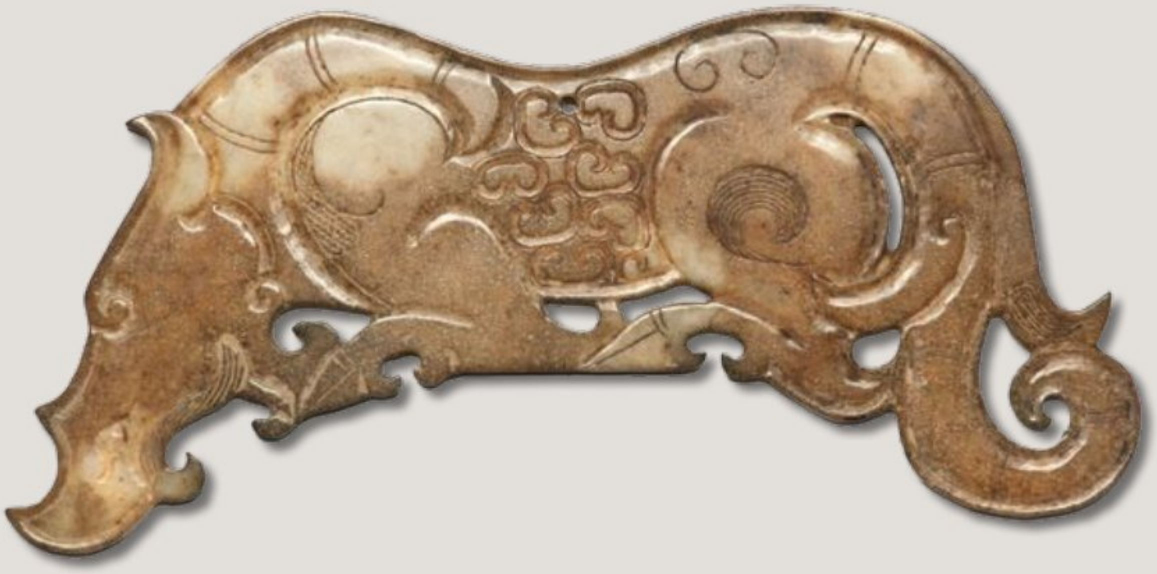
[redacted]

[redacted]



297
Length 17 cm
長 17 厘米

[redacted]



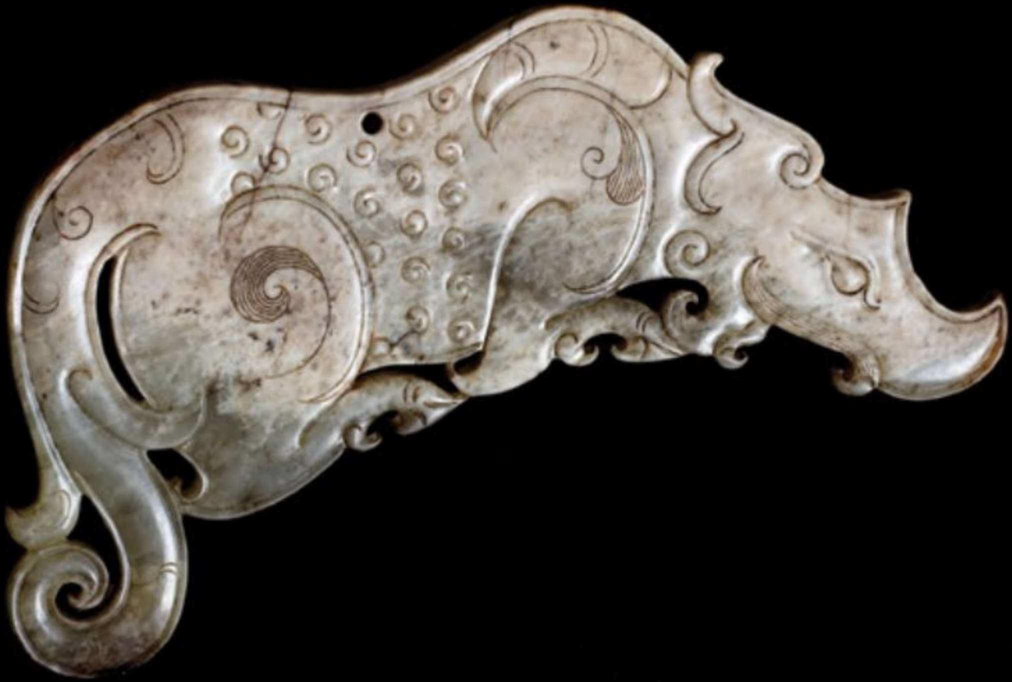
298
Length 18.3 cm
長 18.3 厘米

299
TIGER-SHAPED PENDANT
虎形玉佩

This plaque, carved in the shape of a tiger, is similar to no.298 but more detailed and refined. In both cases, the overall shape of the tiger and the details are the [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



299
Length 14 cm
長 14 厘米

EARLY WESTERN HAN, 3RD - 2ND CENTURY BC
西漢早期, 公元前3世紀-前2世紀

300-302
FOUR TIGER-SHAPED PENDANTS
四虎形玉佩

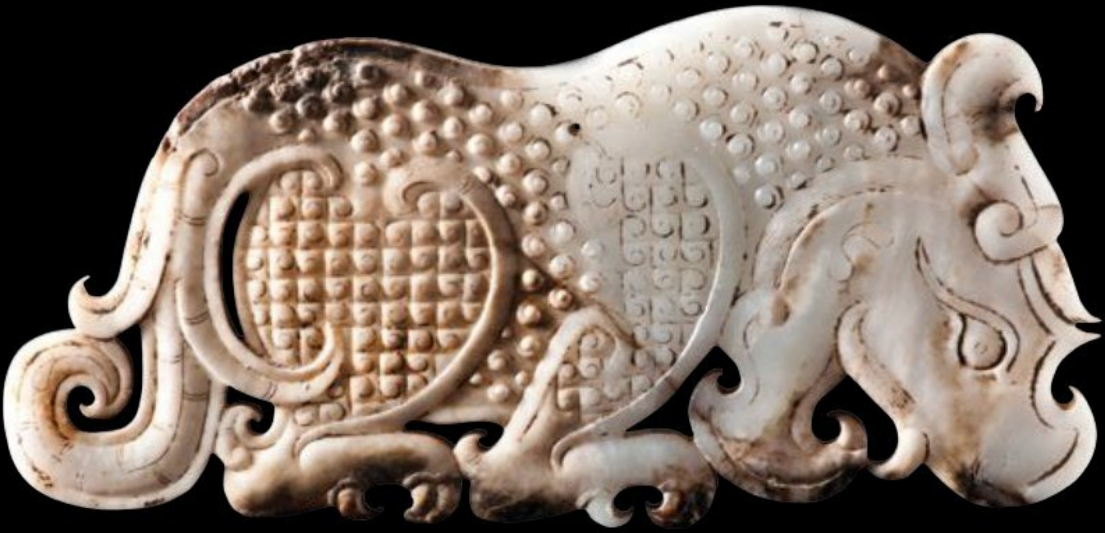
These tiger-shaped jades represent a category mostly known through famous examples in North American museums or in private collections, but that are yet undocumented amongst archaeological finds. In stylistic terms the plaques [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

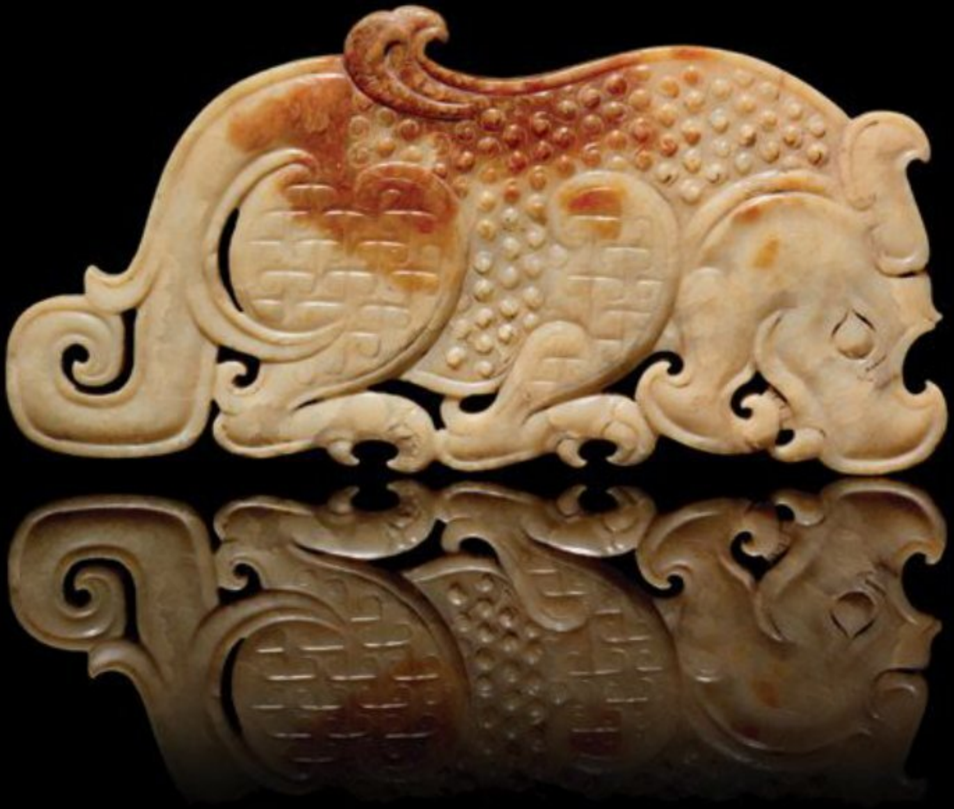
[redacted]



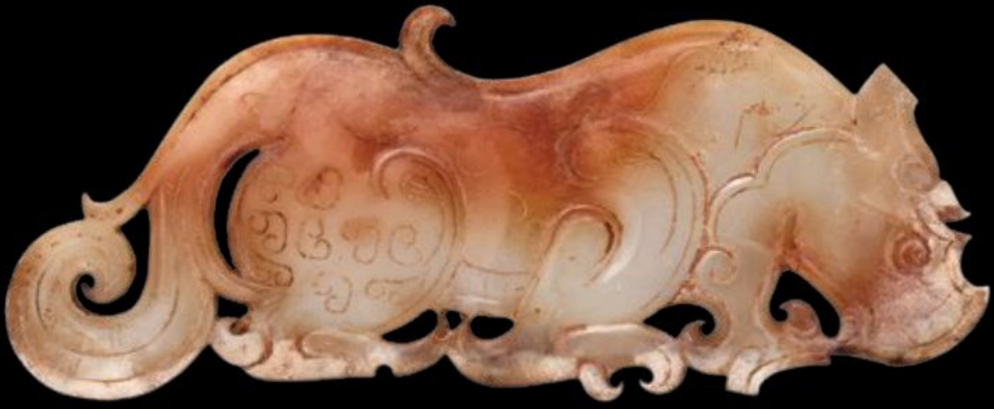
300
Length 15.3 cm
長 15.3 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND - 1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

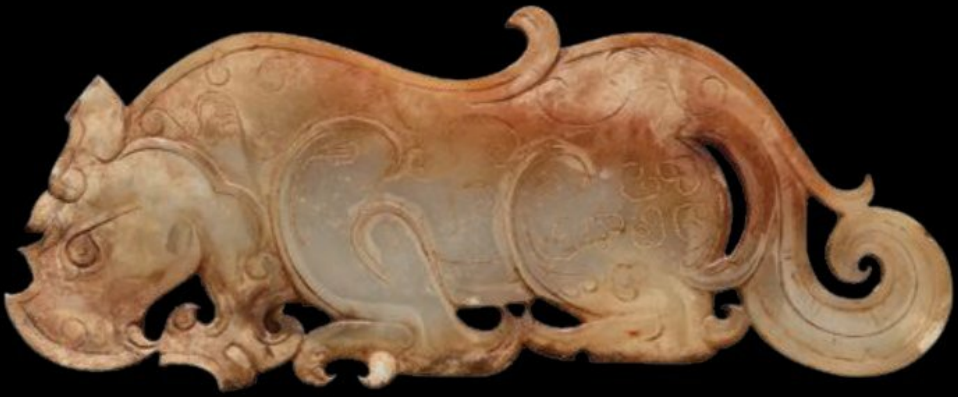
TIGER-SHAPED PENDANTS
虎形玉佩



301
Length 14.5 cm
長 14.5 厘米



302a
Length 13 cm
長 13 厘米



302b
Length 13 cm
長 13 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND - 1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

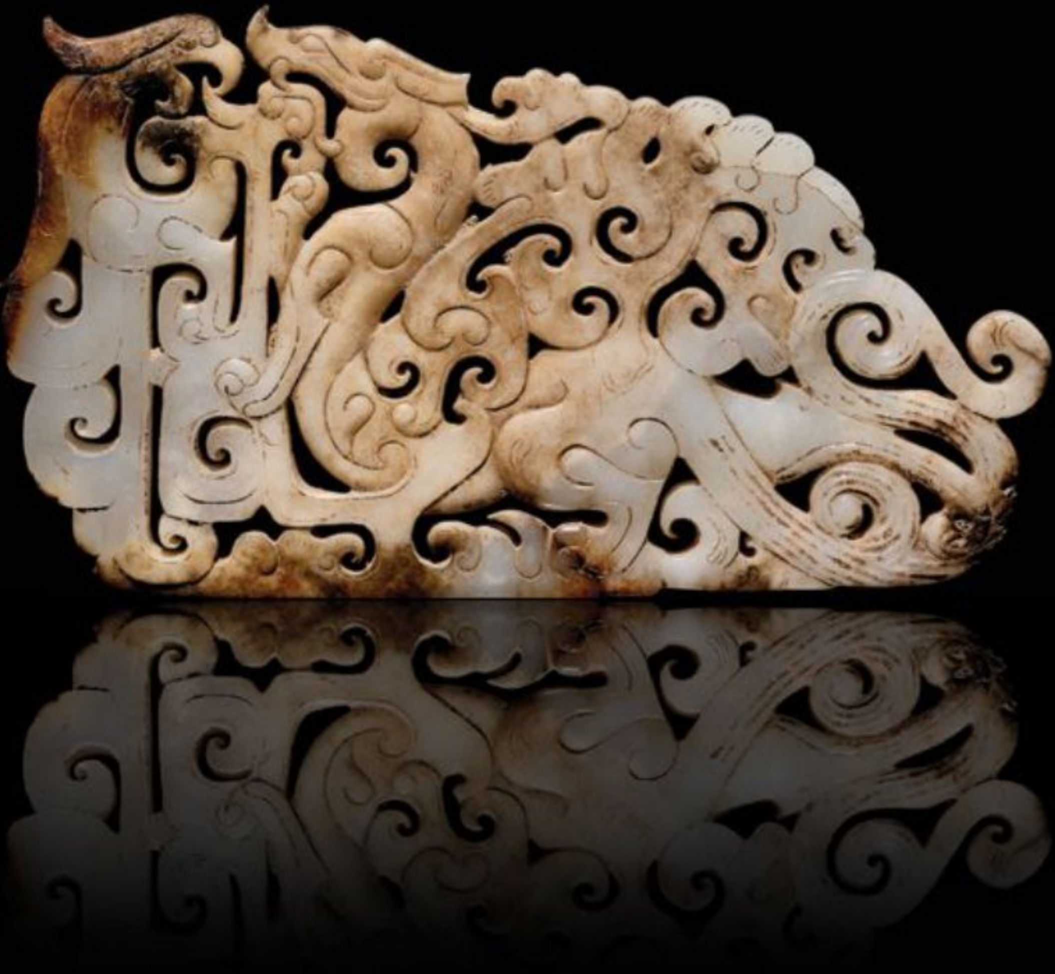
303
OPENWORK JADE WITH DRAGON AND PHOENIX DESIGN
鏤空龍鳳形玉佩

This masterfully carved openwork jade depicting creatures of an imaginary world offers a vivid example of how plastic and fluent the decorative motifs carved on jades had become in the Han period, as they almost appear painted rather than [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



303
Width 13.1 cm
寬 13.1 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND - 1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

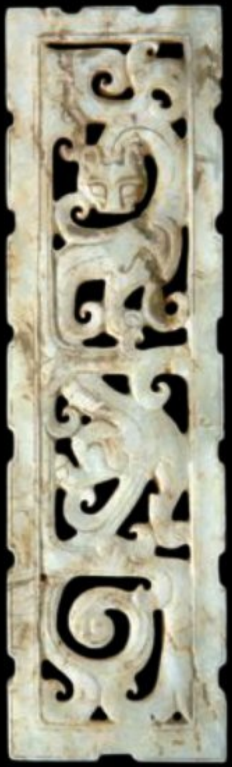
304-306
THREE RECTANGULAR JADES IN OPENWORK WITH DRAGON AND CAMEL DESIGN
三長方形龍駱駝紋玉飾

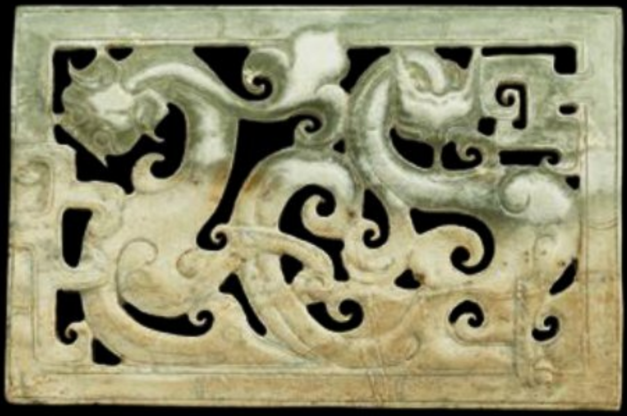
Ornamental jade plaques of rectangular form, like the three grouped here and the following no.307, were derived from similar items in metal, mostly belt plaques, that were common amongst the nomadic peoples of [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

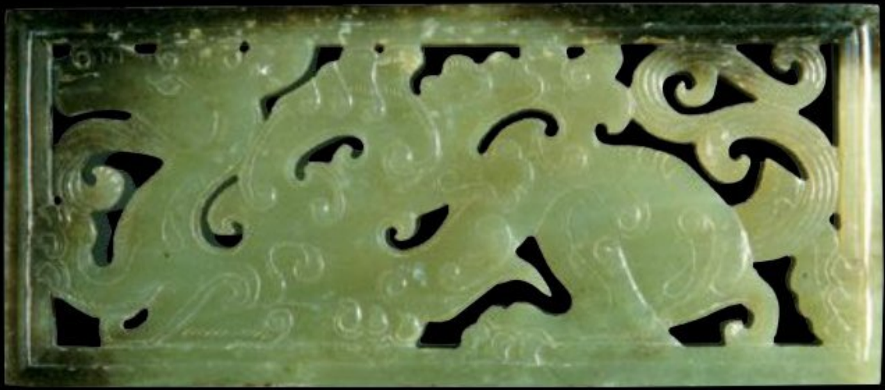
[redacted]





305
Width 6.8 cm
寬 6.8 厘米

304
Length 10 cm
長 10 厘米



306
Width 13.1 cm
寬 13.1 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND - 1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

307
PAIR OF BELT PLAQUES IN WHITE JADE WITH IBEX-LIKE ANIMALS
雙長方形羱羊紋白玉帶

Steppe animal art had a strong influence on carved jades and was introduced to China from the northern territories that were inhabited by semi-nomadic tribes during the Eastern Zhou period: at the beginning of the Han dynasty, [redacted]

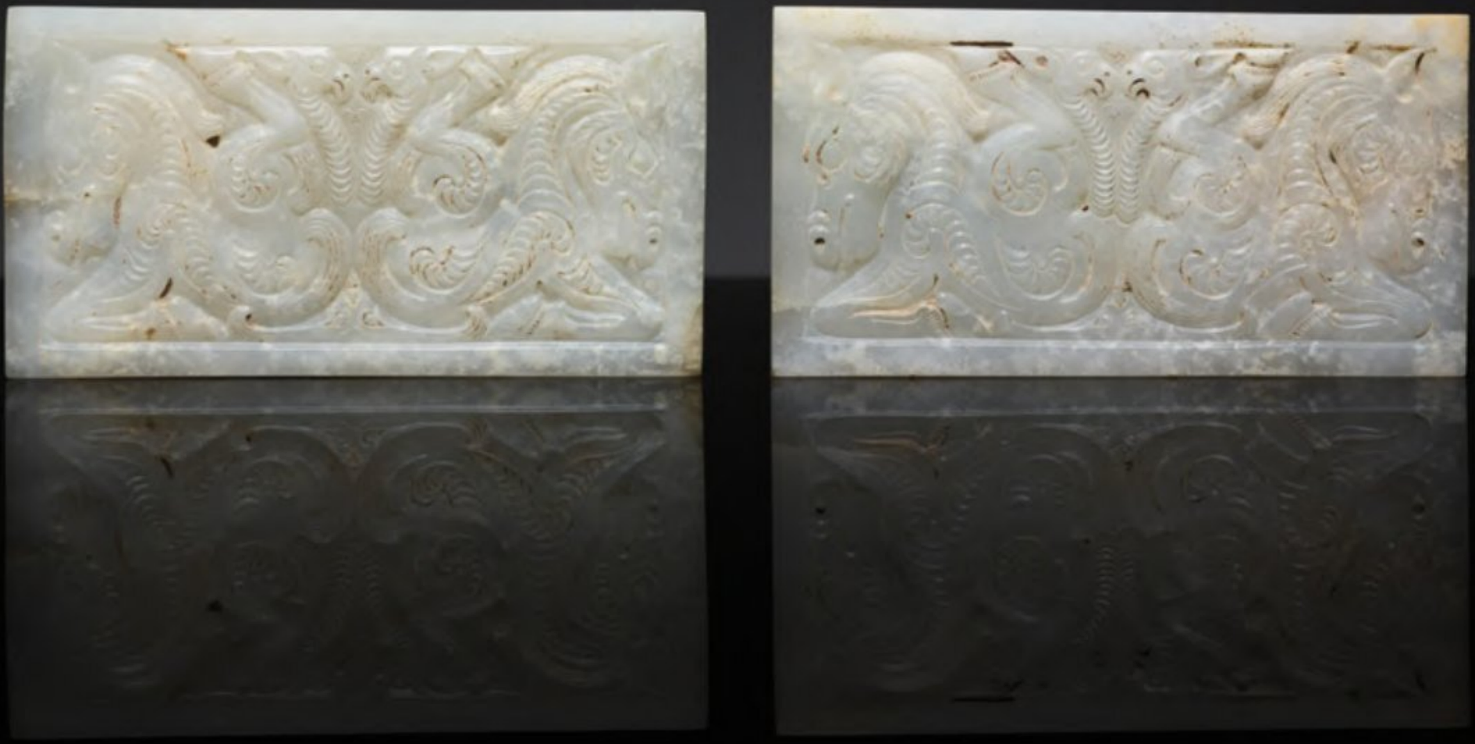
[redacted]

[redacted]

The loops on the back of one of the plaques.

[redacted]

[redacted]

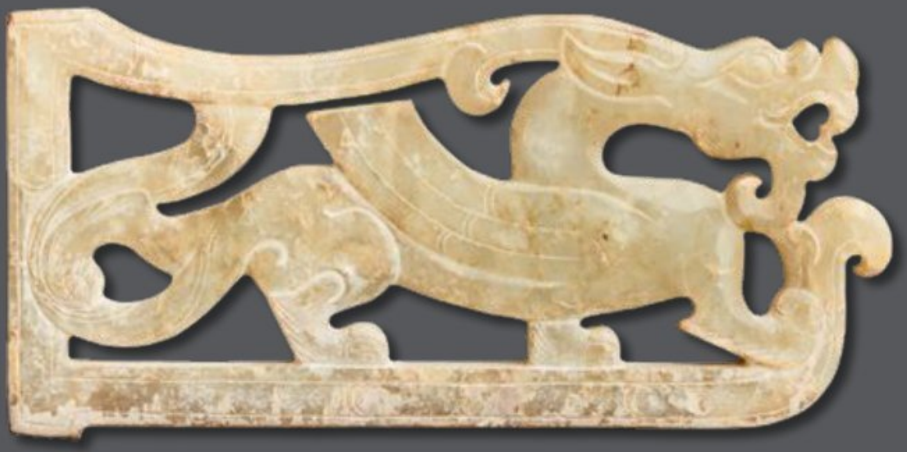


307
Width 8 cm
寬 8 厘米

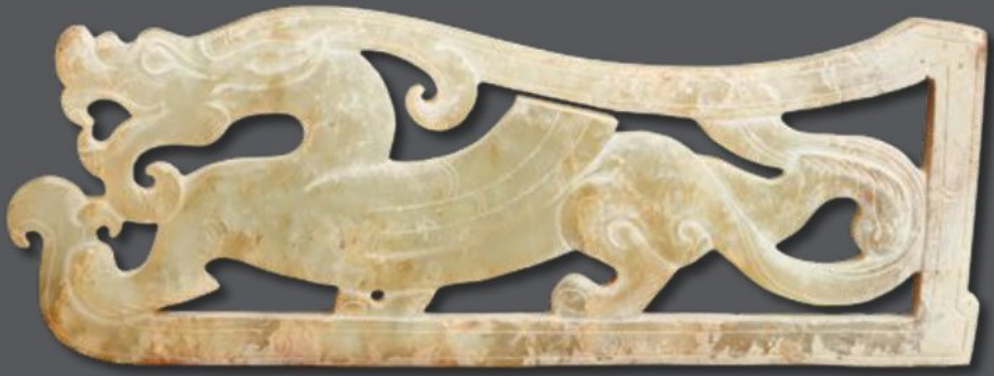
308
TWO OPENWORK JADES WITH WINGED DRAGONS
兩鏤空翅膀龍紋玉飾

This pair of almost identical jade openwork plaques, one slightly longer than the other, is carved with the motif of a winged dragon in profile. The shape of the plaques [redacted]

[redacted]



308a
Width 7.8 cm
寬 7.8 厘米



308b
Width 9.4 cm
寬 9.4 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND - 1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

309
OPENWORK ORNAMENT WITH A TIGER AND A PHOENIX
鏤空虎鳳紋玉飾

310
PENDANT WITH DOUBLE DRAGON MOTIF
雙龍玉佩

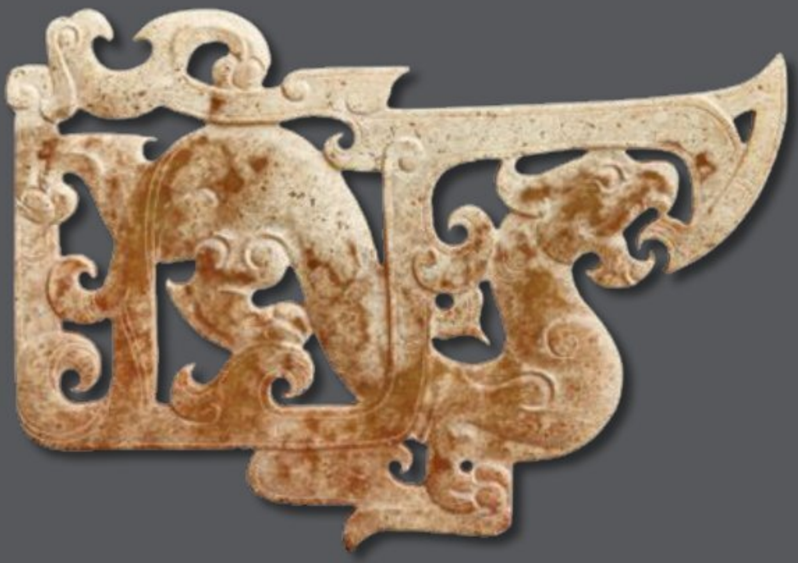
These two carvings introduce a group of small jades that include items of personal adornment and accessories for the sword. While the first were fashioned mostly after Eastern Zhou models, the sword fittings display more inventiveness, both in terms of shapes and decoration.

[redacted]

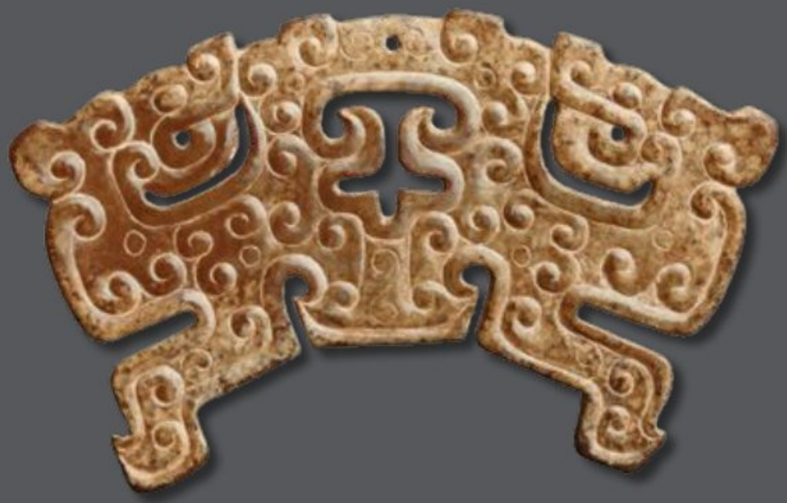
[redacted]

[redacted]

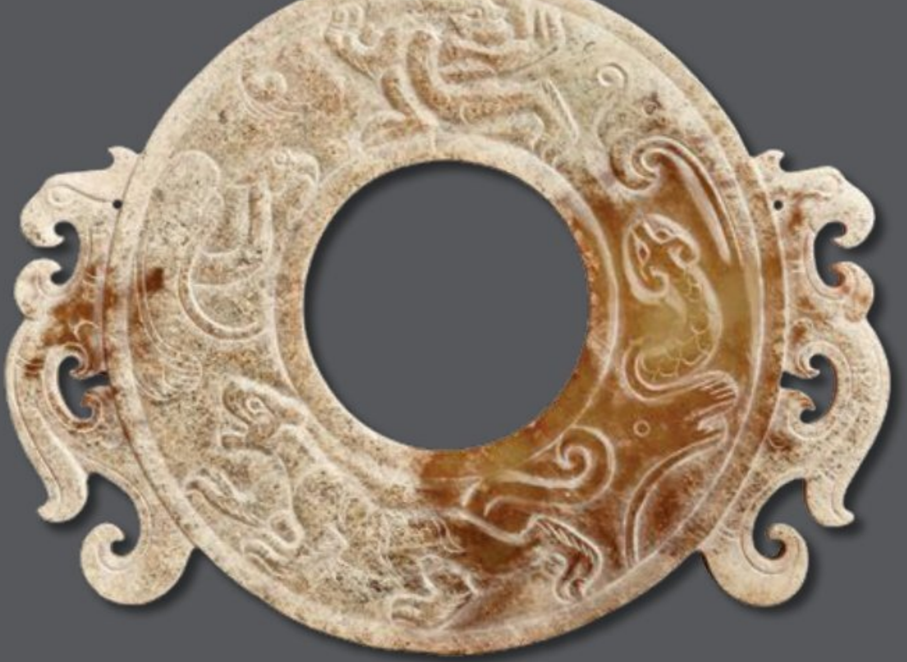
[redacted]

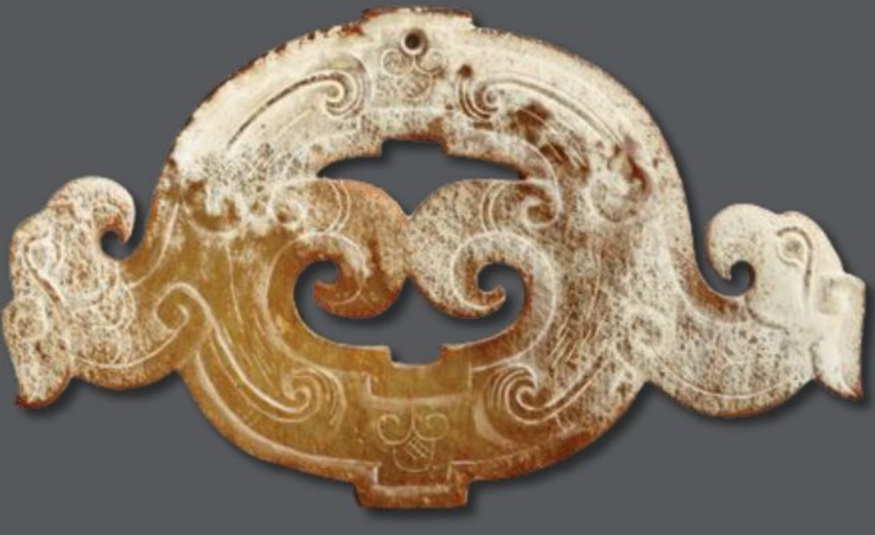


309
Width 7.6 cm
寬 7.6 厘米



310
Width 6.9 cm
寬 6.9 厘米





311
Width 7.7 cm
寬 7.7 厘米

312
Width 7.1 cm
寬 7.1 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND - 1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

311
DISC WITH PAIR OF PHOENIXES
雙鳳紋玉璧

312
PENDANT WITH TWO PHOENIXES
雙鳳玉佩

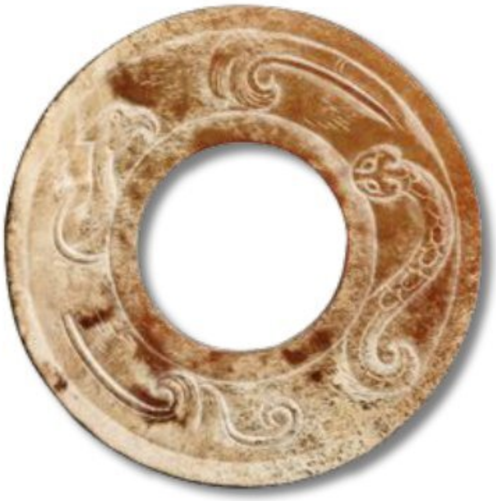
313
***HUAN* RING WITH PHOENIX AND SNAKE MOTIFS**
鳳蛇紋玉環

These three small jades share the same style and are carved from the same type of jade: they were probably all part of the same set of ornaments intended for a lady, as suggested by the recurring motif of [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



313
Diameter 4.2 cm
直徑 4.2 厘米

LATE EASTERN ZHOU, EARLY WESTERN HAN, 3RD - 2ND CENTURY BC
東周晚期,西漢早期, 公元前3世紀-前2世紀

314-315
TWO DRAGON-SHAPED *XI*
兩龍形玉觿

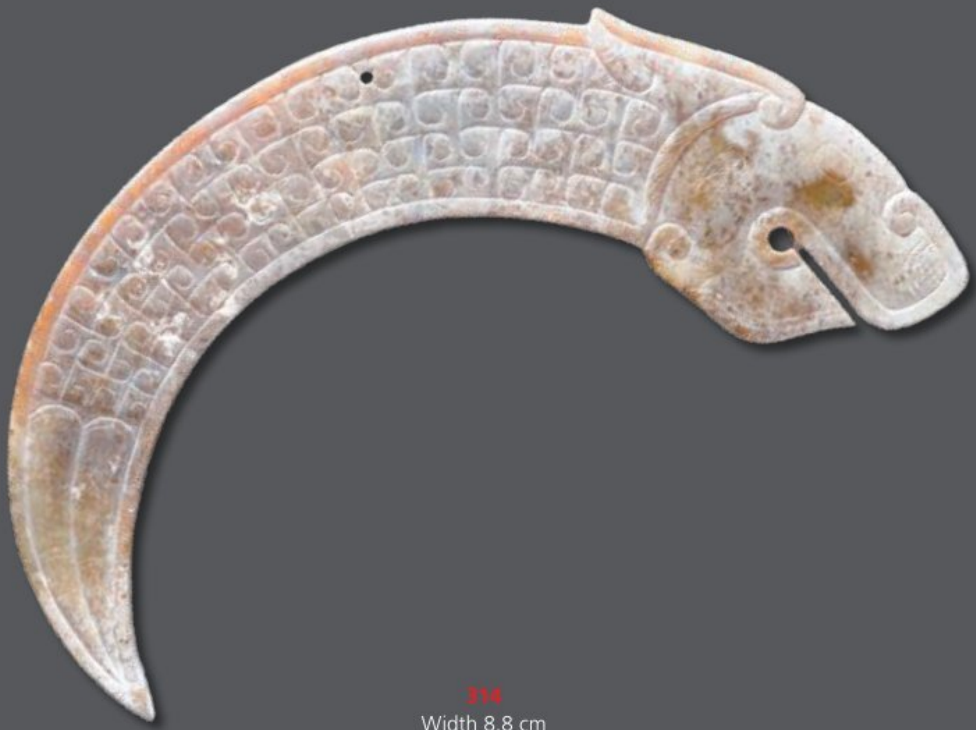
The *xi* 觿, or “knot-opener”, shaped as a dragon with an arched shape and an acuminated tip, is another of the Zhou period jade forms that continued to be carved under the Han. The two examples here date to these two periods and [redacted]

[redacted]

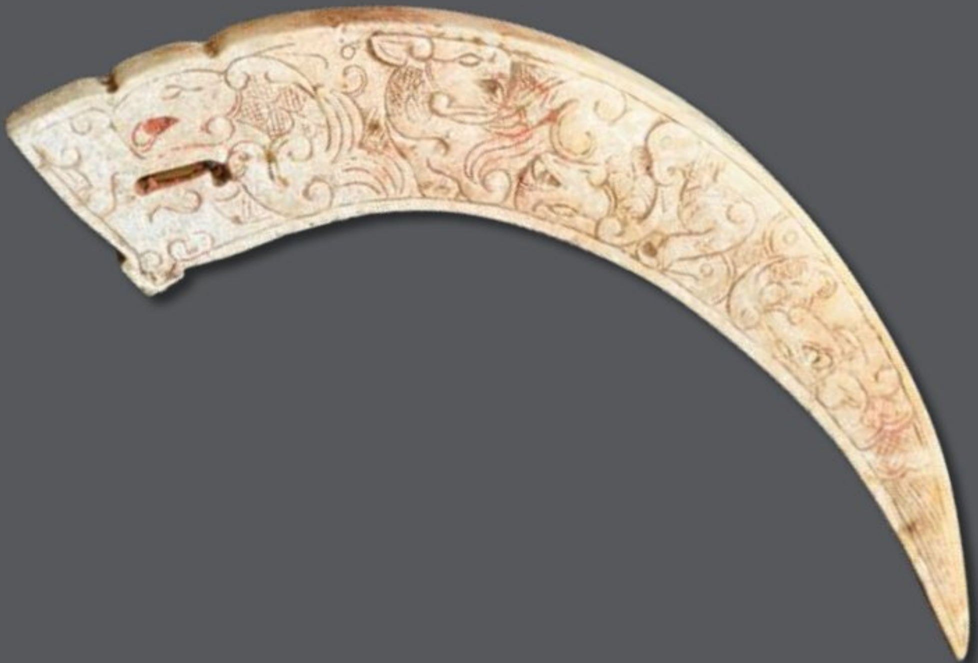
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



314
Width 8.8 cm
寬 8.8 厘米



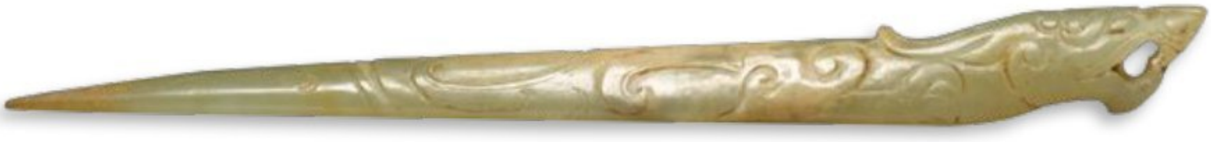
315
Width 9.2 cm
寬 9.2 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

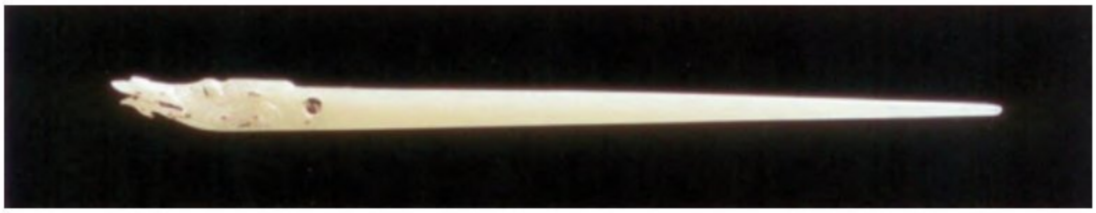
316-317
TWO *JI* HAIRPINS WITH DRAGON HEADS
兩龍首玉笄

The long, straight shape of these two needle-shaped jades suggest that they were used as hairpins, though the dragon heads that are delicately carved on the larger extremities and the pointed ends recall features of the *xi* 觿 pendants. Hairpins were made in jade and bone [redacted]

[redacted]

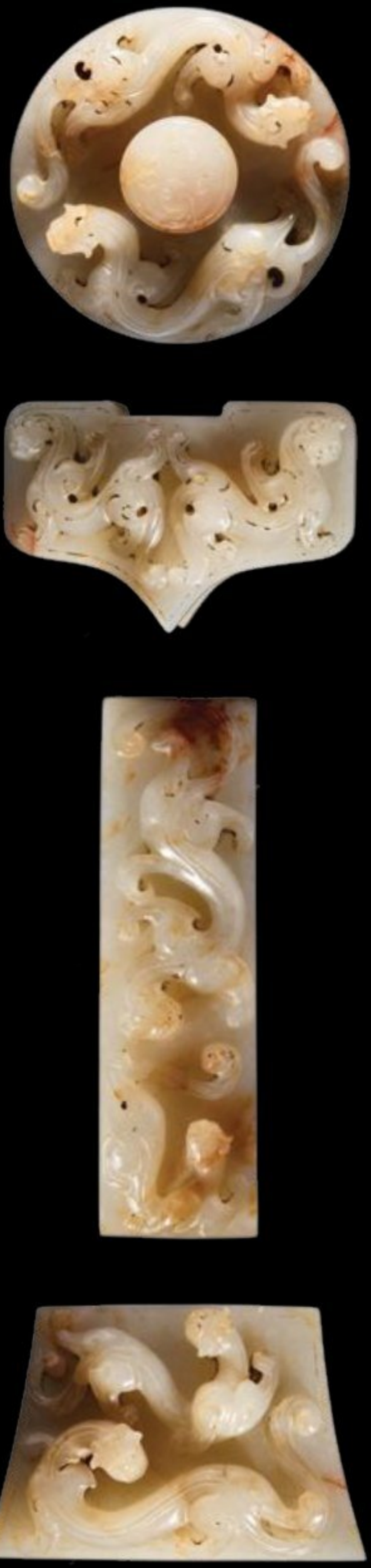


316
Length 8.8 cm
長 8.8 厘米



317
Length 12.5 cm
長 12.5 厘米

[redacted]



318

Diameter 6.4 cm - Width 6.6 cm - Length10.5 cm - Width 6.9 cm

直徑 6.4 厘米 - 寬 6.6 厘米 - 長 10.5 厘米 - 寬 6.9 厘米

Text next page

WESTERN HAN, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

318
SWORD FITTINGS IN AGATE WITH HORNLESS *CHI* DRAGONS IN RELIEF
螭紋瑪瑙劍頭

319
SWORD POMMEL WITH HORNLESS *CHI* DRAGONS IN RELIEF
螭紋玉劍首

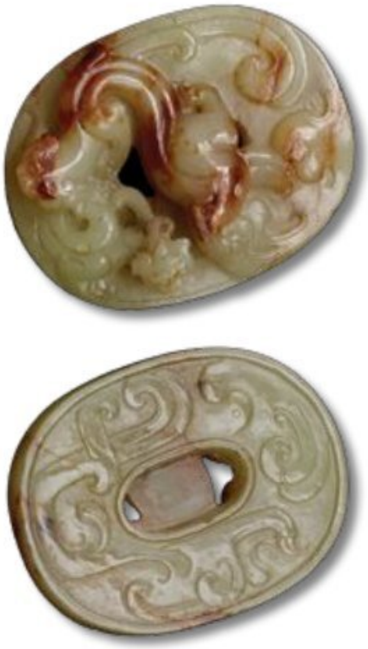
320
SWORD GUARD, *BENG*, WITH HORNLESS *CHI* DRAGON IN RELIEF AND REMAINS OF IRON
螭紋玉劍琫, 猶存鐵質劍身

Weapon fittings in jade developed in the Eastern Zhou period (see nos.209 and 210) and reached their climax during the following Han dynasty, when entire sets made of several jades were used to embellish the swords of [redacted]

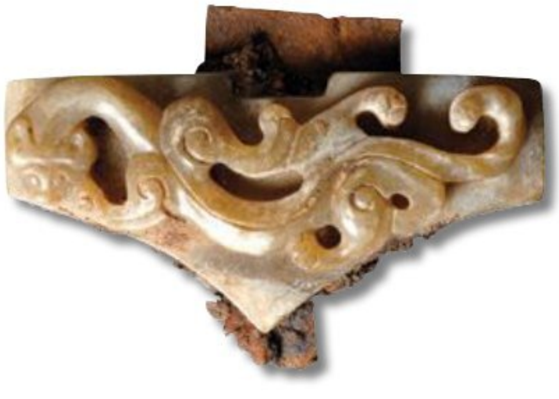
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

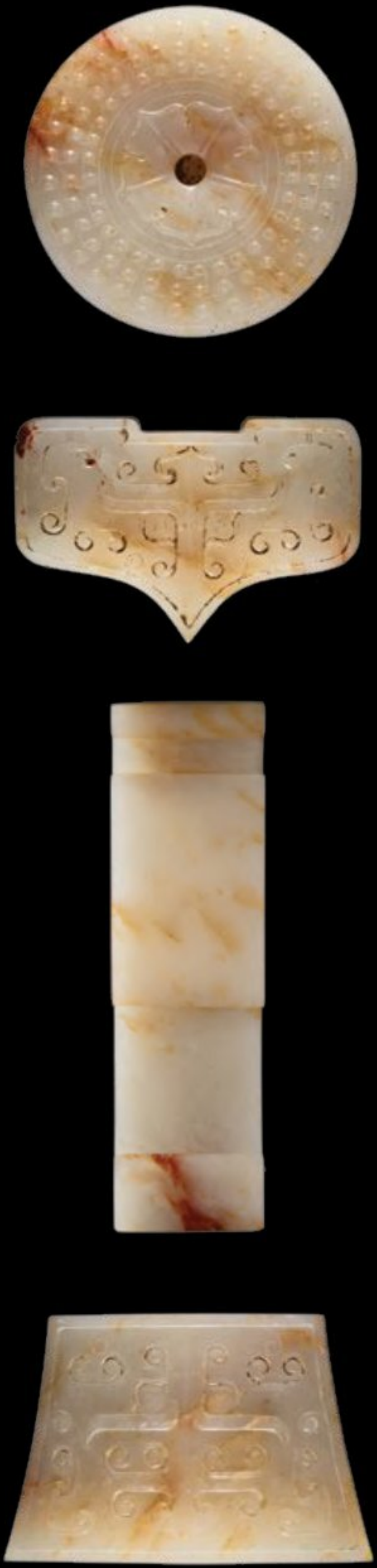


319
Width 4.5 cm
寬 4.5 厘米



320
Width 7.2 cm
寬 7.2 厘米

[redacted]



318
Views of the back

WESTERN HAN, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

321
SCABBARD SLIDE, *SUI*, WITH JOINED CURLS AND MASK MOTIF
勾雲獸頭紋玉璲

322
SCABBARD SLIDE, *SUI*, WITH DRAGON, PHOENIX AND MYTHICAL ANIMAL
龍鳳神獸紋玉璲

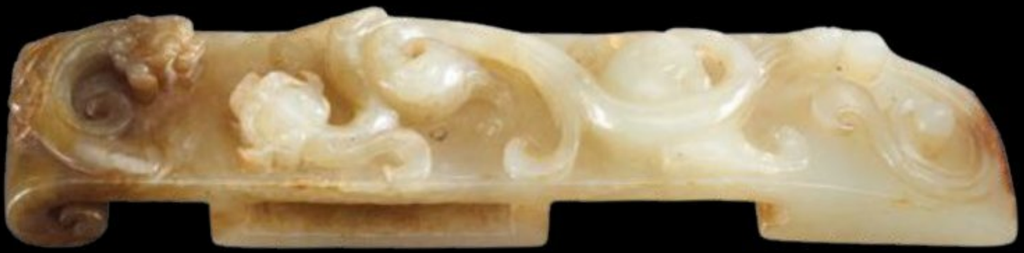
Sword scabbard -or sheath- slides were used to hang the weapon from the belt and were one of the most common accessories used by the nobility of ancient China during the late Eastern Zhou and Han periods. The examples here are [redacted]

[redacted]

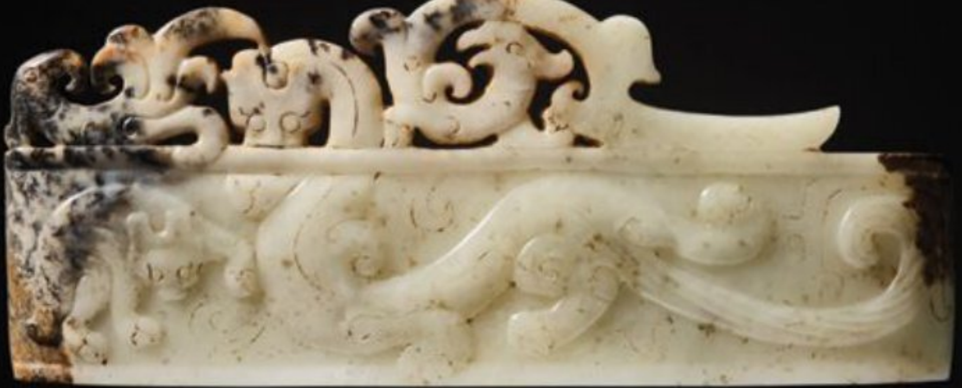
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



321
Length 11.6 cm
長 11.6 厘米



322
Length 12.8 cm
長 12.8 厘米

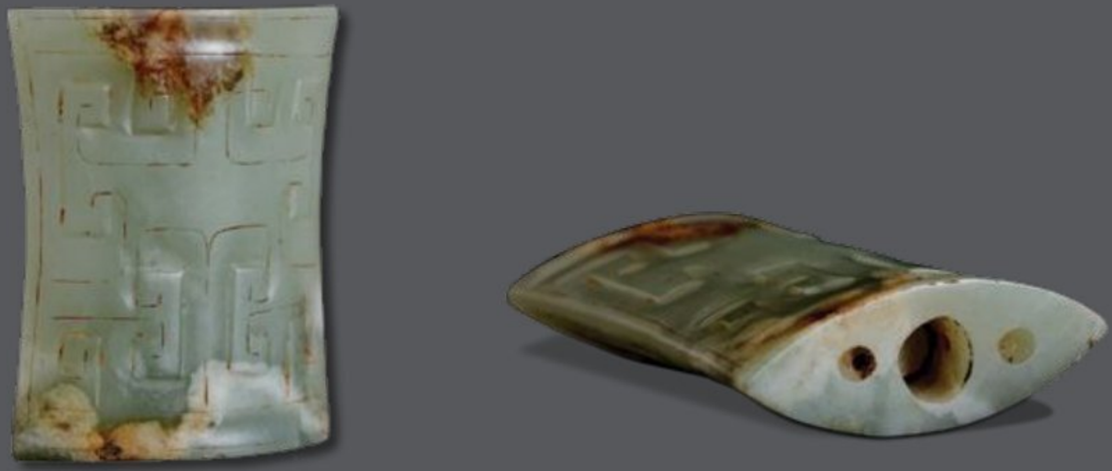
WESTERN HAN, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

323-324
TWO SCABBARD CHAPES, *BI*
兩玉劍珌

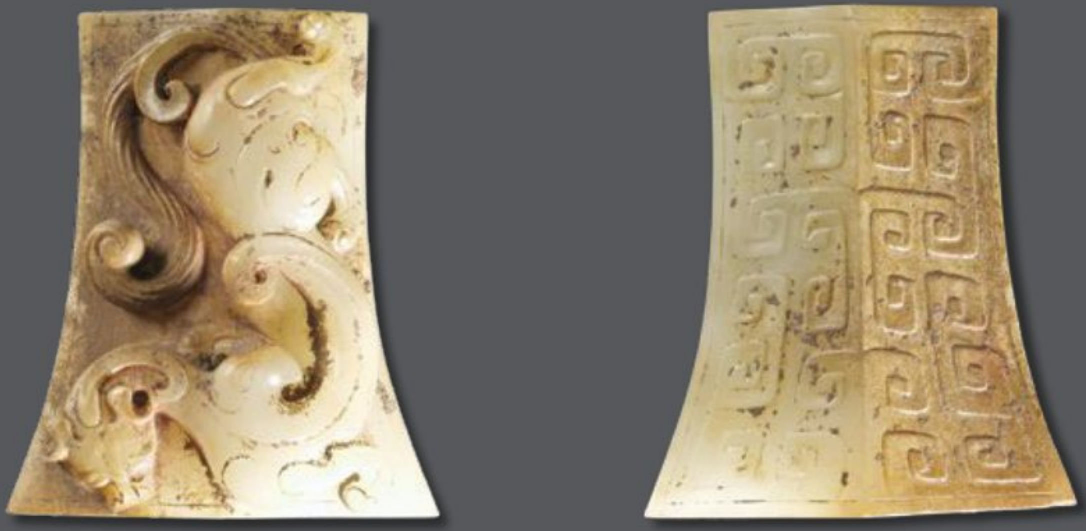
Scabbard chapes were used to protect the tip of the iron sword, which was inserted into the central hole drilled on the top. These jades were mostly in use in the Han period [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



323
Height 4.8 cm
高 4.8 厘米
(views of the front and top)

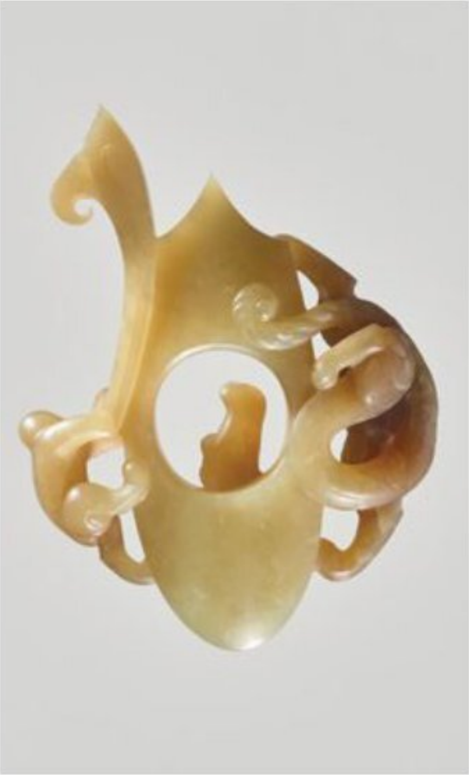


324
Height 9.8 cm
高 9.8 厘米
(views of the front and back)

HAN DYNASTY, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
漢代, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

325
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF AN ARCHER'S RING WITH DRAGON AND MONKEY
龍猴紋韘形玉佩

326
PENDANT IN THE SHAPE OF AN ARCHER'S RING WITH DRAGON AND PHOENIX MOTIF
龍鳳紋韘形玉佩



View of the back of no.325.

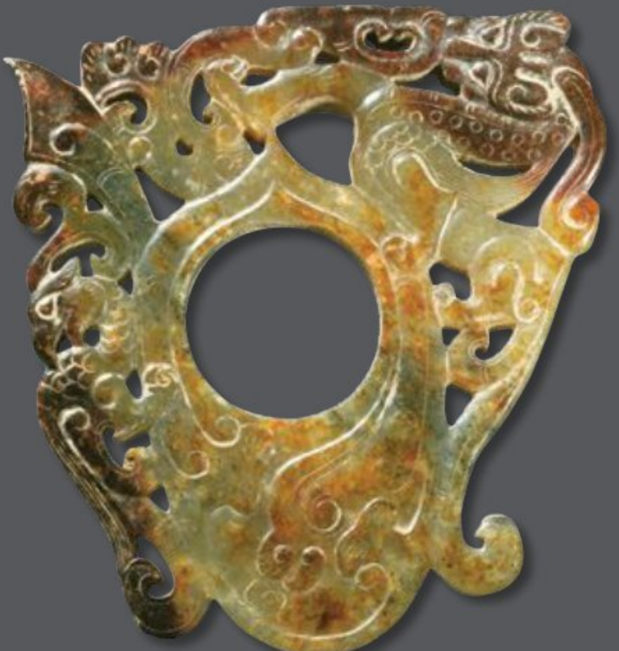
The shield-like shape of these two pendants with elaborate motifs carved in openwork derived from rings that were designed to protect an archer's thumb when shooting arrows. Such rings were already in use in the Shang period: an ivory example found in the [redacted]

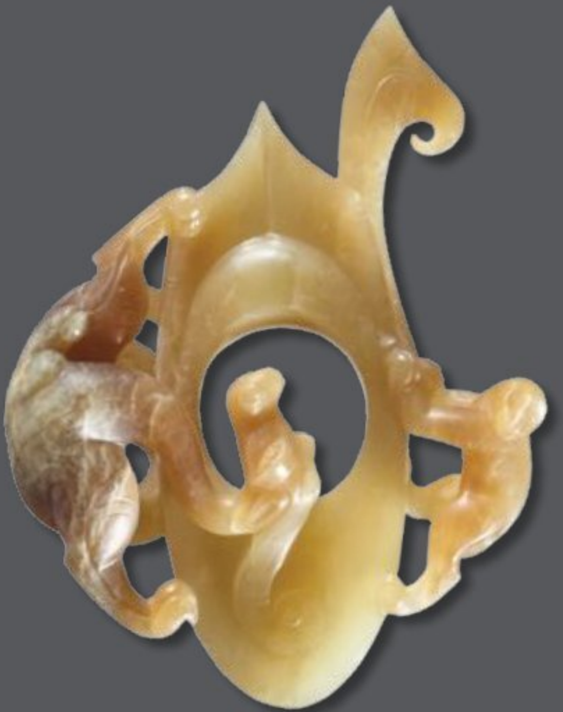
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]





325
Length 8.5 cm
長 8.5 厘米

326
Length 5.3 cm
長 5.3 厘米

WESTERN HAN, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
西漢, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

327
HUMAN FIGURE
玉人

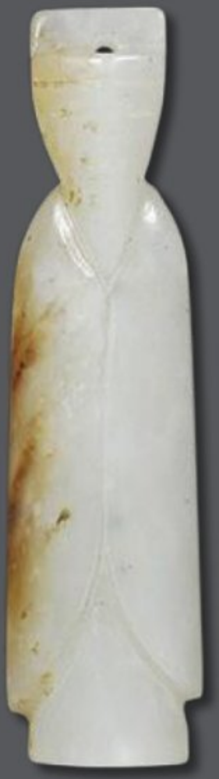
328
FIGURINE OF A DANCER
玉舞人

Human-shaped jades are rather scarce in Han art and fall into two major categories which are represented by these carvings: images of male standing figures in hieratic postures dressed in formal attire, such as no.327, and carvings of dancers, of a more [redacted]

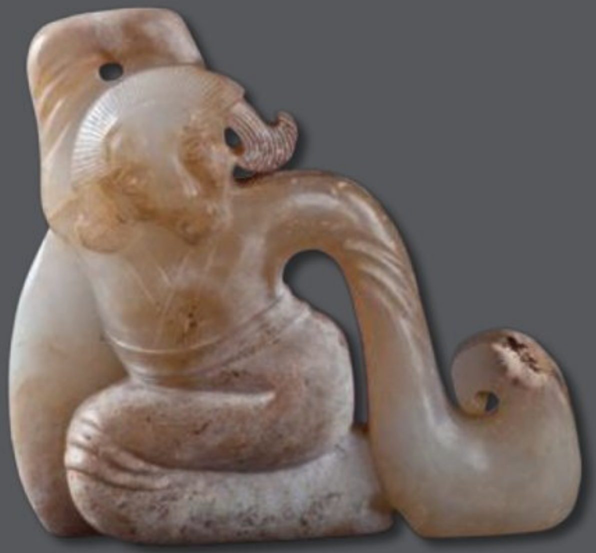
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



327
Height 6.2 cm
高 6.2 厘米



328
Height 5.5 cm
高 5.5 厘米

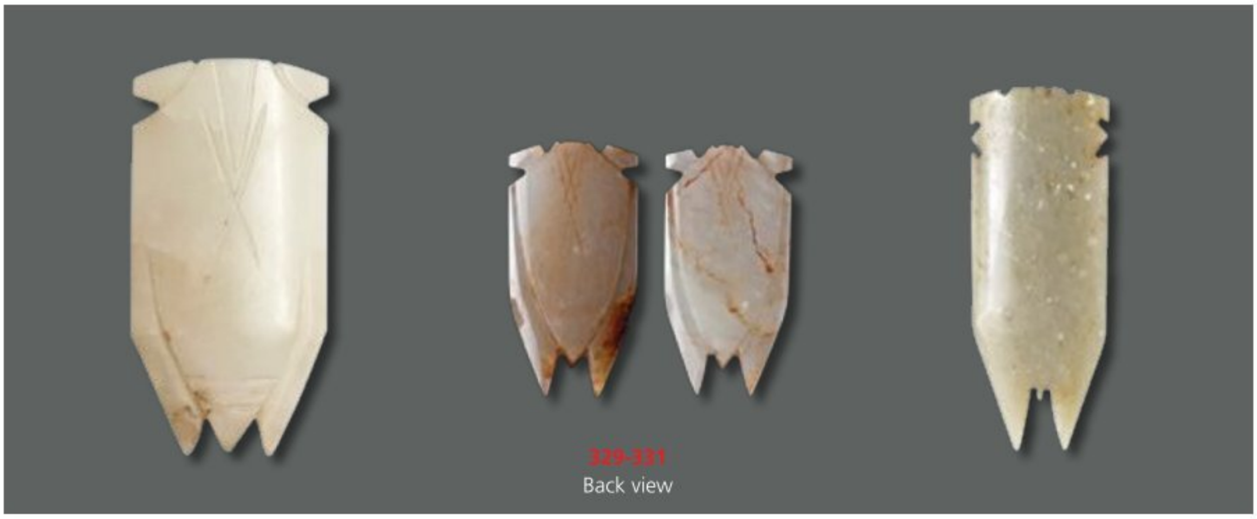
329-331
FOUR JADE *CHAN* CICADAS
四玉蟬

Jade played a role of foremost importance in the burial practices of the Han period, as can be seen from the tombs of the highest members of the royal elite. The body orifices were blocked with differently shaped jades and the deceased was then dressed in a funerary suit made of thousands of jade plaques sewn together with metal threads: even the wooden and lacquered coffins were [redacted]

[redacted]

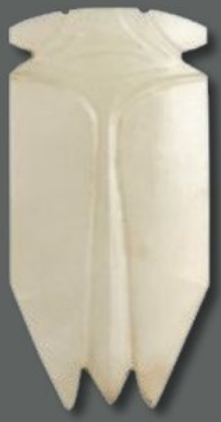
[redacted]

[redacted]

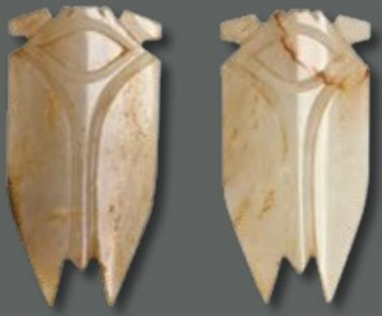


329-331
Back view

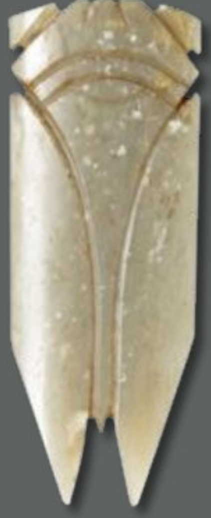
[redacted]



329
Length 6.1 cm
長 6.1 厘米



330
Length 4.9 cm - Length 5 cm
長 4.9 厘米 - 長 5 厘米



331
Length 8.5 cm
長 8.5 厘米

HAN DYNASTY, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
漢代, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

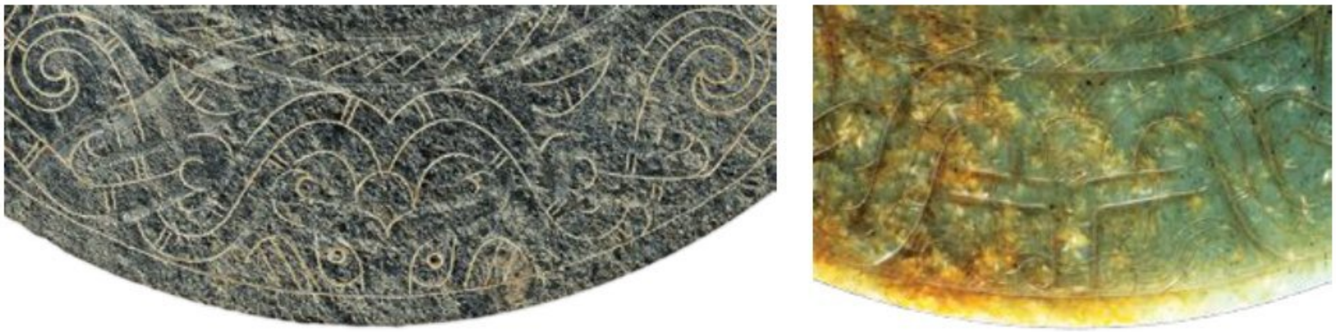
332
BI DISC WITH HEXAGON PATTERN AND MASK MOTIF
蒲獸面紋玉璧

333
HALF DISC WITH HEXAGON PATTERN AND MASK MOTIF
蒲獸面紋半玉璧

Large numbers of discs of the type illustrated here have been found in the tombs of the Han dynasty. These funerary jades, that were placed around the body of the deceased or on/in the coffin, have a standardized decoration and were often carved from a variety of green or green-bluish jade with a glassy feeling: they are usually of lesser quality than the [redacted]

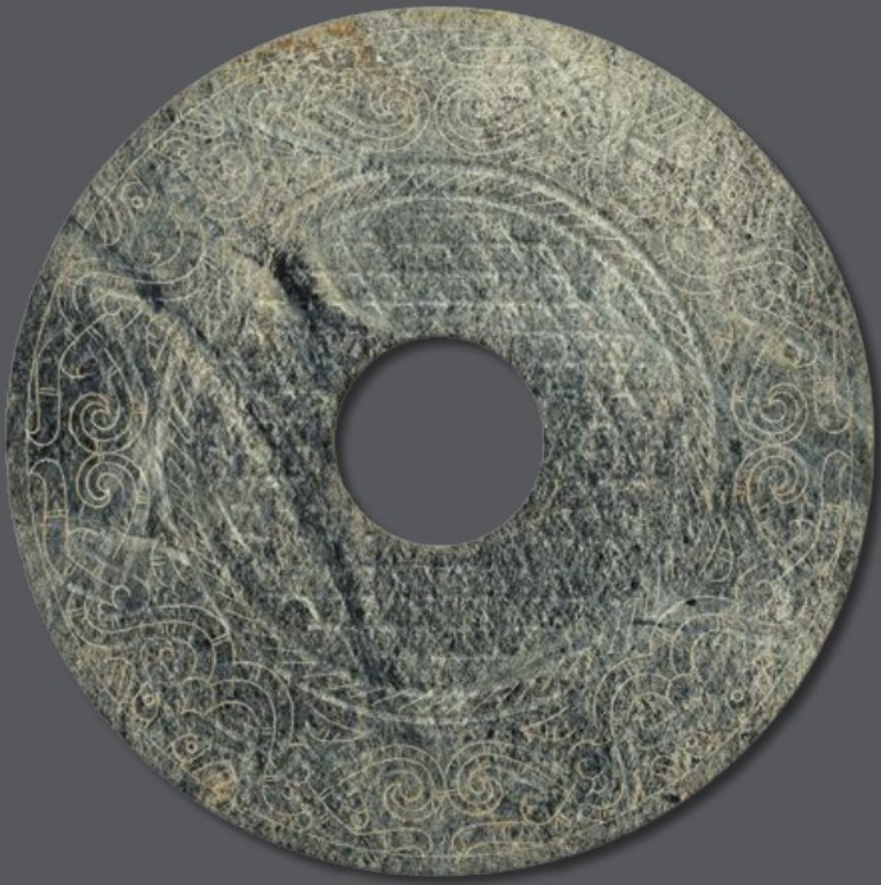
[redacted]

[redacted]

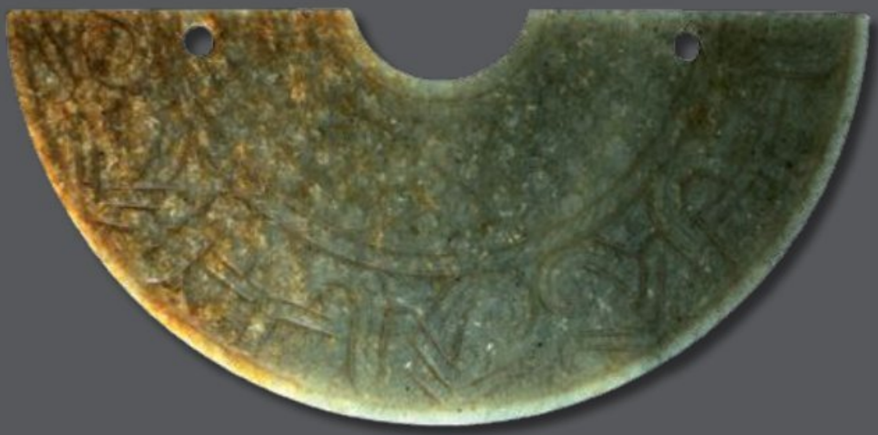


Details of the masks carved on nos.332 and 333.

[redacted]



332
Diameter 17.8 cm
直徑 17.8 厘米



333
Width 18.7 cm
寬 18.7 厘米

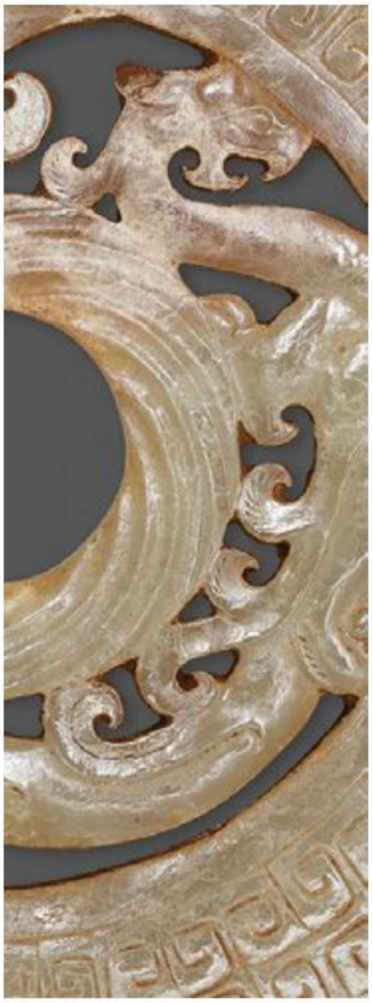
LATE EASTERN ZHOU, 3RD CENTURY BC
東周晚期, 公元前3世紀-前2世紀

334
DISC WITH DRAGON AND PHOENIXES IN OPENWORK AND PATTERN OF SQUARED CURLS
鏤空鳳龍方穀紋玉璧

The main typologies of discs and rings of the Han period were introduced earlier (page 258), when discussing jades similar to those found in some of the main princely tombs (see nos.288-294). The *bi* 璧 grouped here illustrate discs whose borders are [redacted]

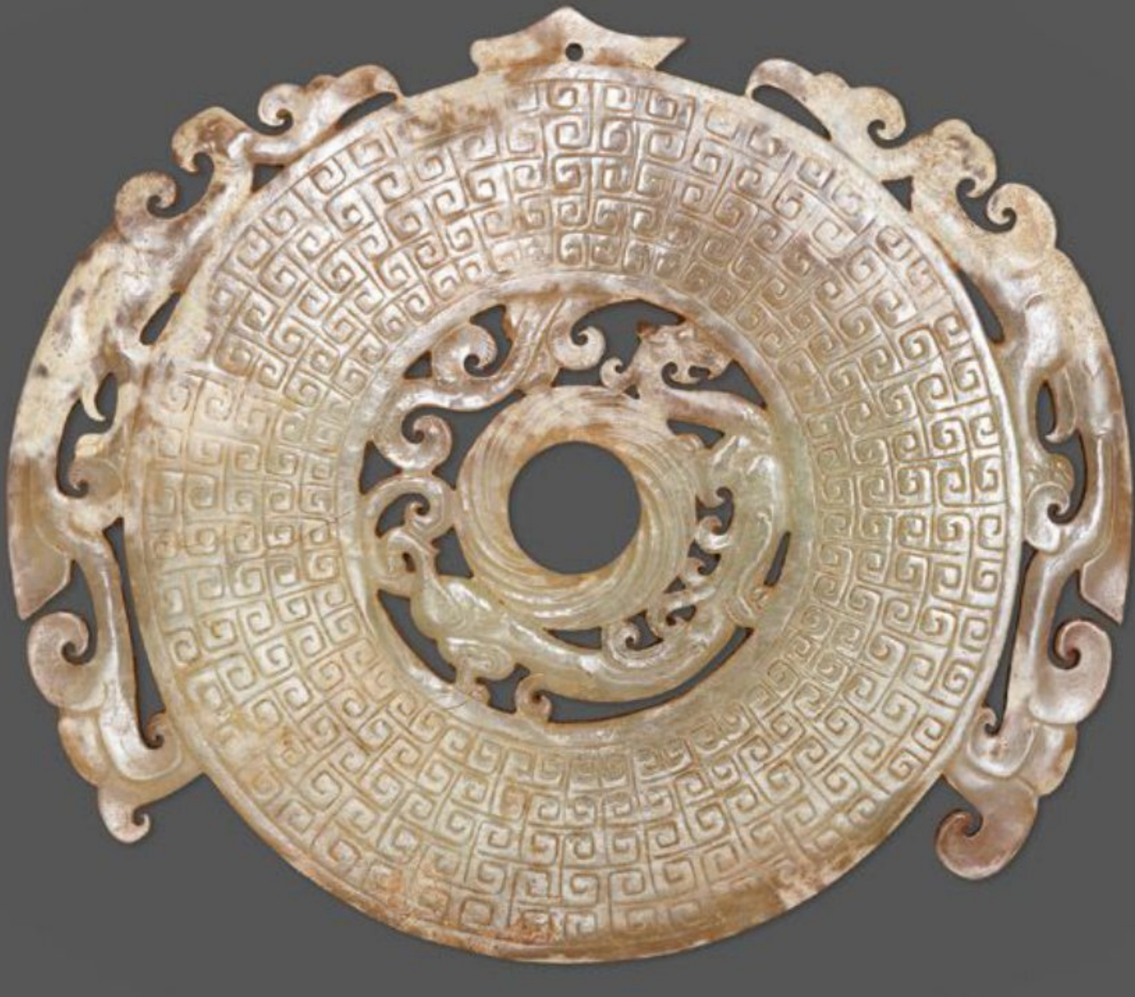
[redacted]

[redacted]



Detail of the dragon carved at the centre of the disc.

[redacted]



334

Width 16.5 cm

寬 16.5 厘米

335
HUAN RING WITH PHOENIX
鳳紋玉環

336-337
TWO DISCS WITH PHOENIXES CARVED ON THE SIDES
兩雙鳳紋玉璧

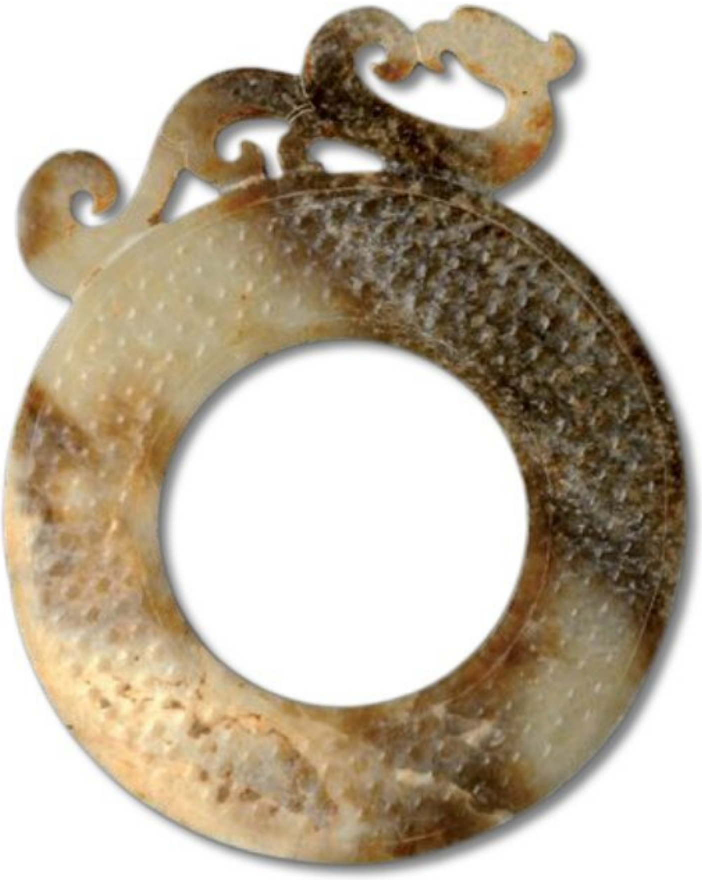
Similarly to the previous disc, the ring and two discs here are all decorated with images of phoenixes carved in openwork on different points of the border. In no.335, a single phoenix [redacted]

[redacted]

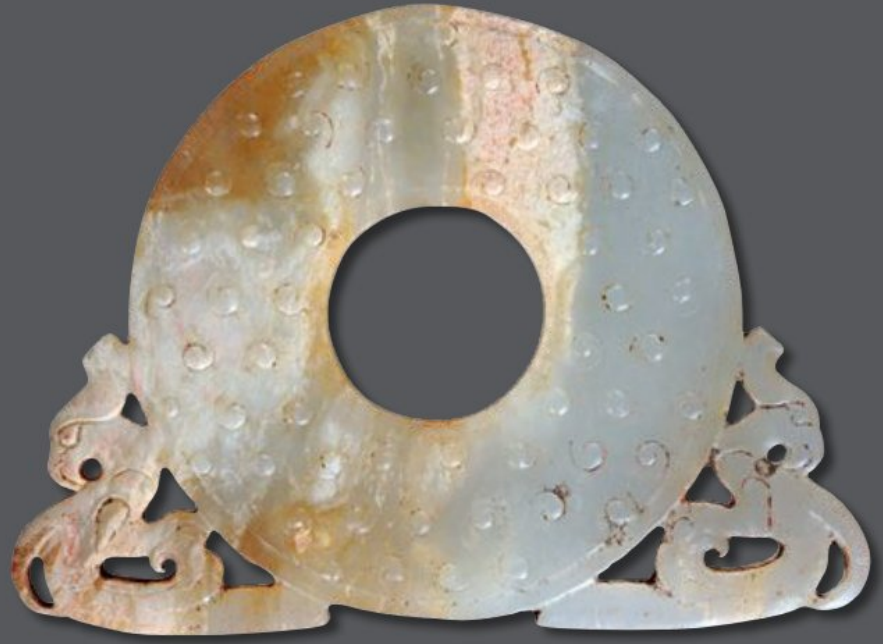
[redacted]

[redacted]

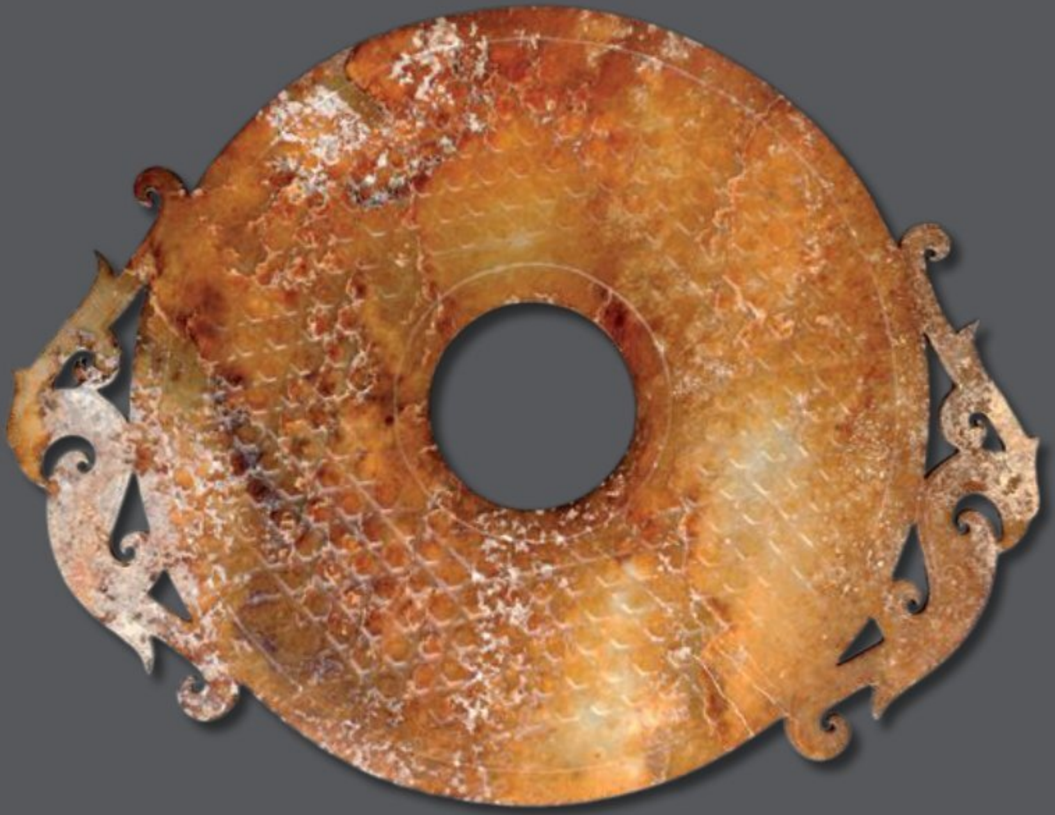
[redacted]



335
Diameter 8.3 cm - Height 10.5 cm
直徑 8.3 厘米 - 高 10.5 厘米



336
Diameter 6.1 cm
直徑 6.1 厘米



337
Diameter 10.8 cm
直徑 10.8 厘米

338

BI DISC WITH DRAGONS AND RAISED CURLS

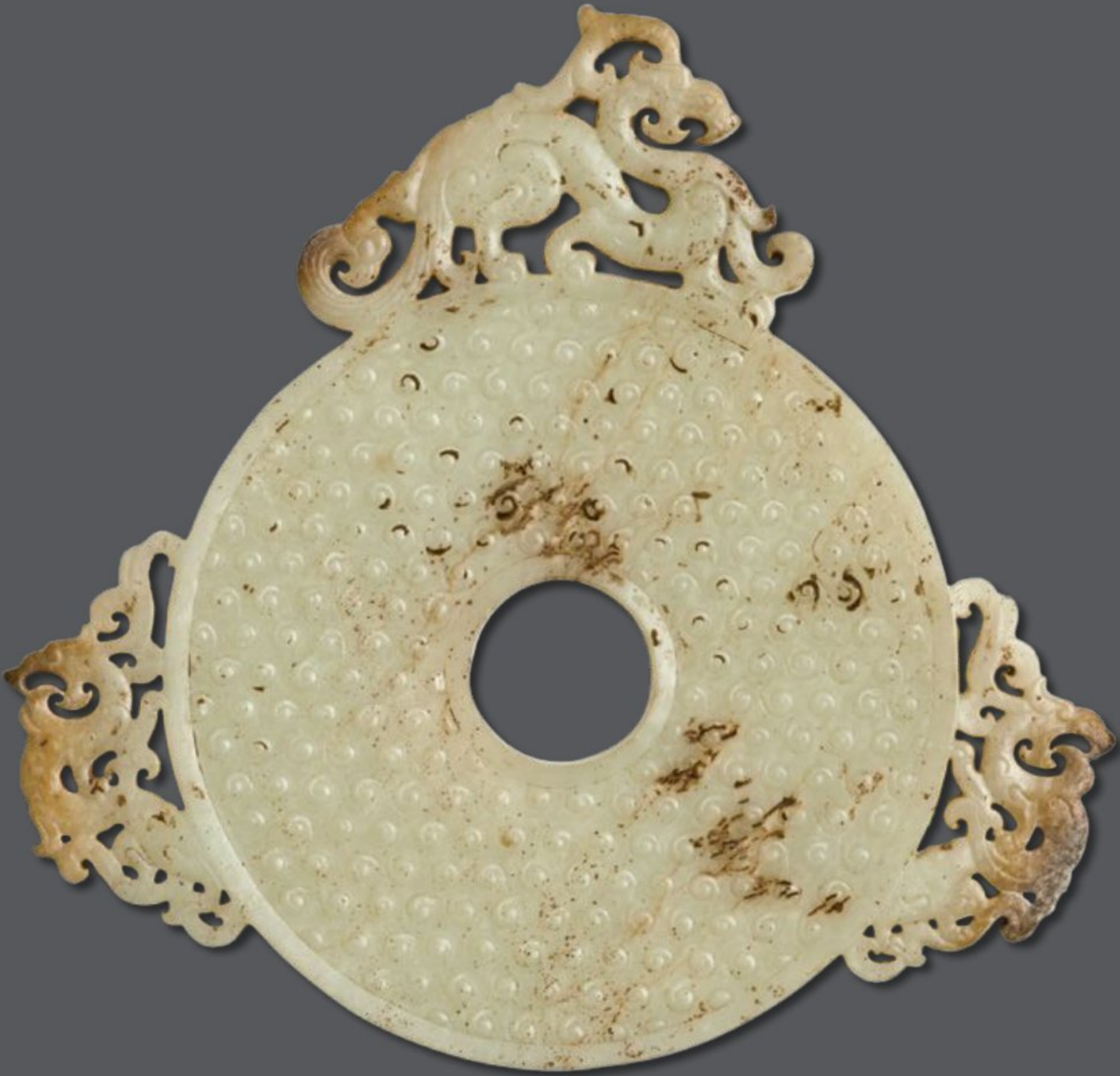
龍穀紋玉璧

This disc in white jade is surrounded by three openwork dragons in profile. The entire surface is decorated with small raised curls, while two plain bands define the inner and outer borders of the disc. The spirals are arranged [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



338
Height 14.2 cm - Diameter 10.6 cm
高 14.2 厘米 - 直徑 10.6 厘米

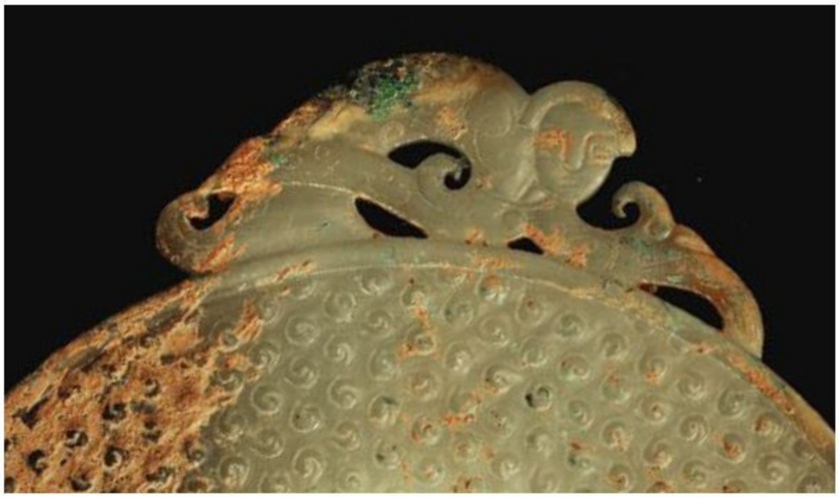
339
DISC WITH DRAGON AND CELESTIAL BEINGS
仙龍穀紋玉璧

Although this disc surrounded by three figures carved on the border is similar in design to the previous one decorated with dragons, it exhibits some interesting differences in style and iconography.

The striding, powerful feline-looking dragon at the top, with a crest, short wings and a slim, winding body compressed in [redacted]

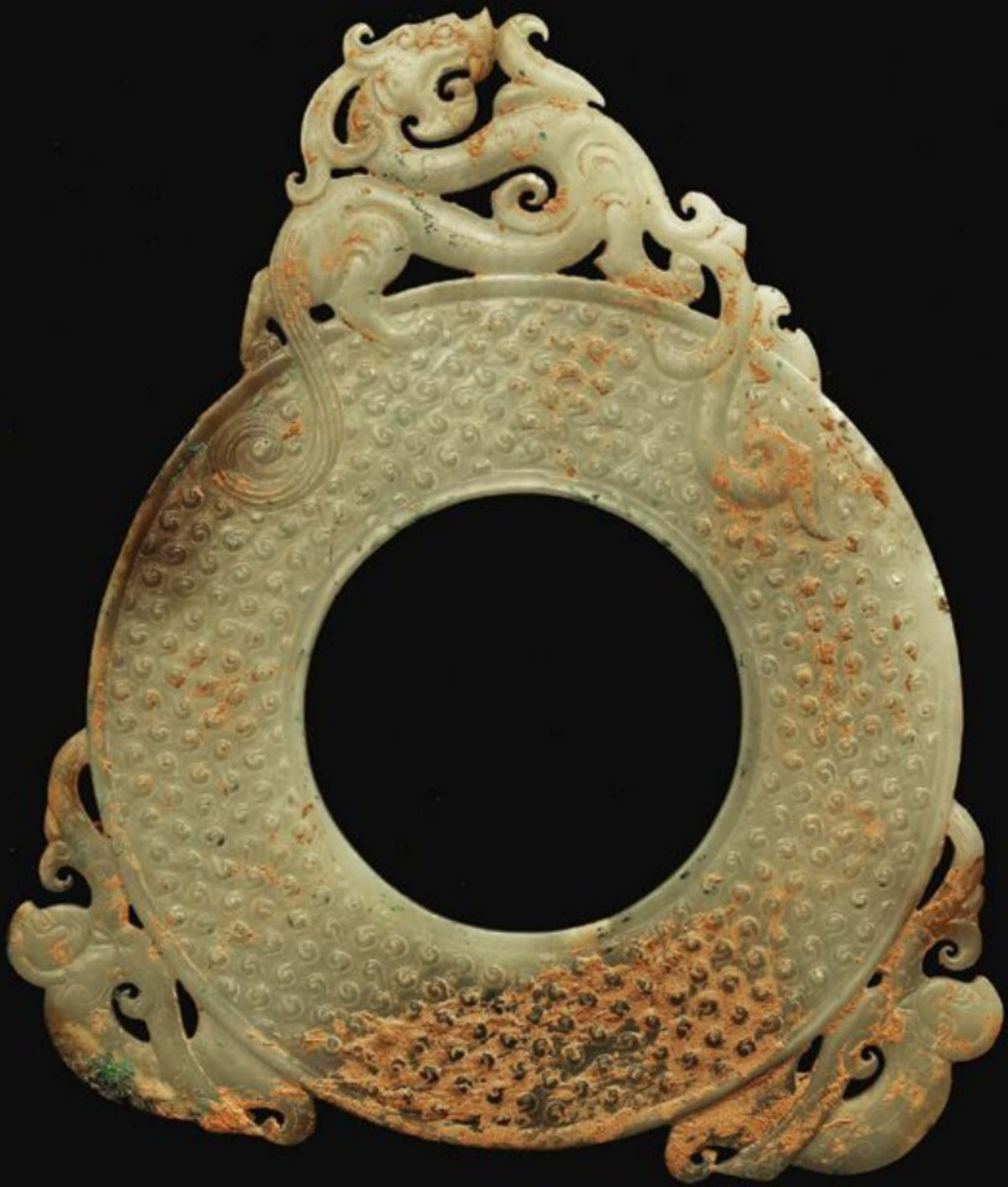
[redacted]

[redacted]



One of the human figures carved on the border of the disc.

[redacted]

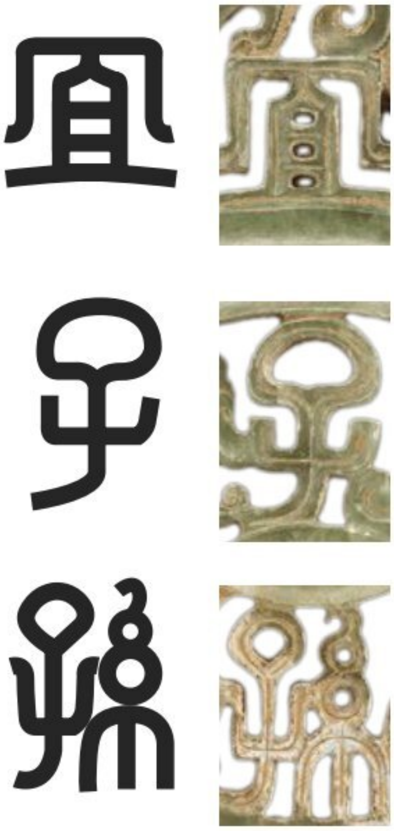


339
Height 15.5 cm - Width 13.4 cm
高 15.5 厘米 - 寬 13.4 厘米

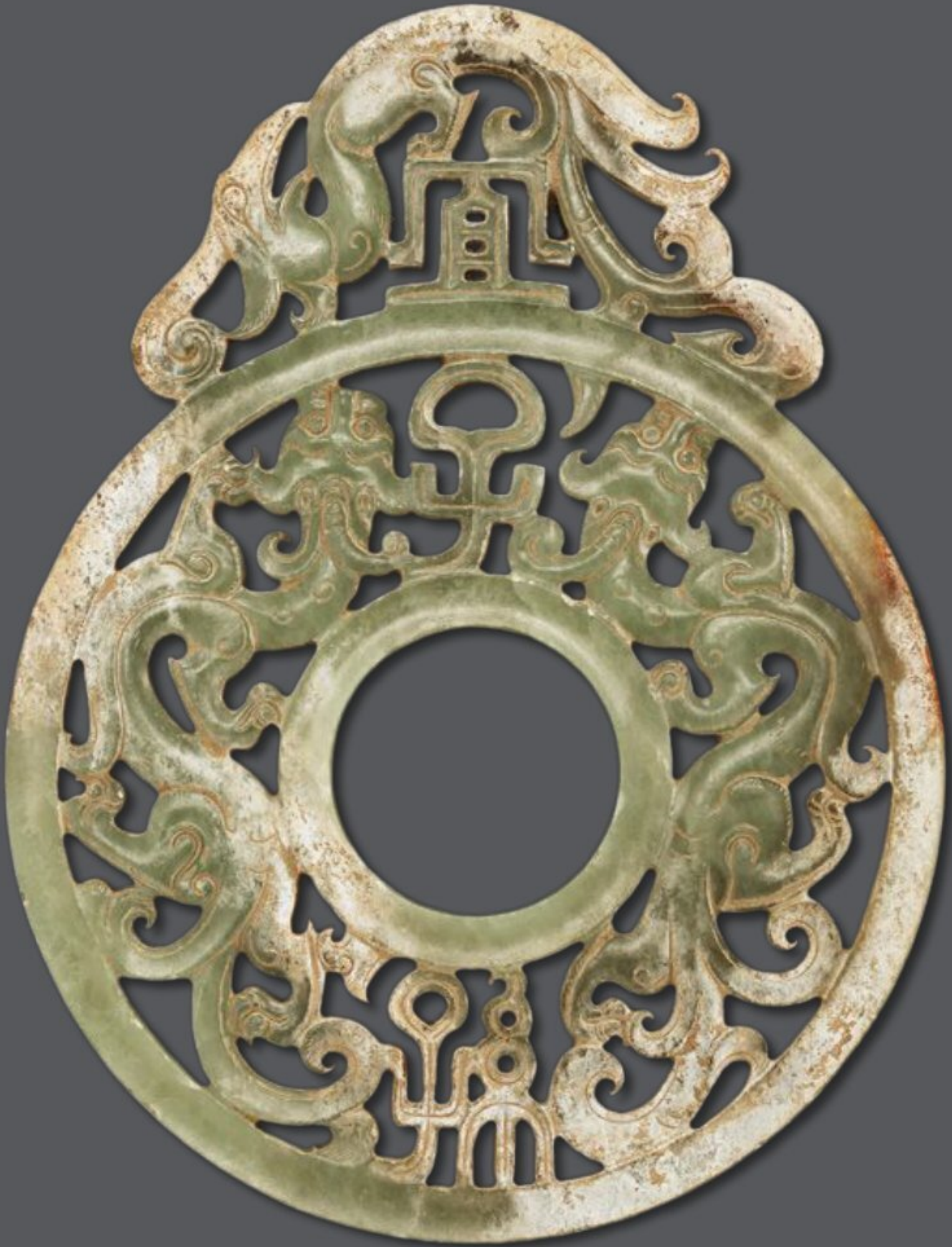
340
OPENWORK DISC WITH CHINESE CHARACTERS AND DRAGON AND PHOENIX DESIGN
鏤空鳳龍紋「宜子孫」玉璧

This elaborate openwork disc belongs to a rather unique category of carved jades with Chinese characters. Attested in archaeological finds, these jades were mostly crafted during the second half of the [redacted]

[redacted]


The three Chinese characters, *yi zi sun* (top to bottom), carved on the disc.

[redacted]



340
Height 11.1 cm - Diameter 8.5 cm
高 11.1 厘米 - 直徑 8.5 厘米

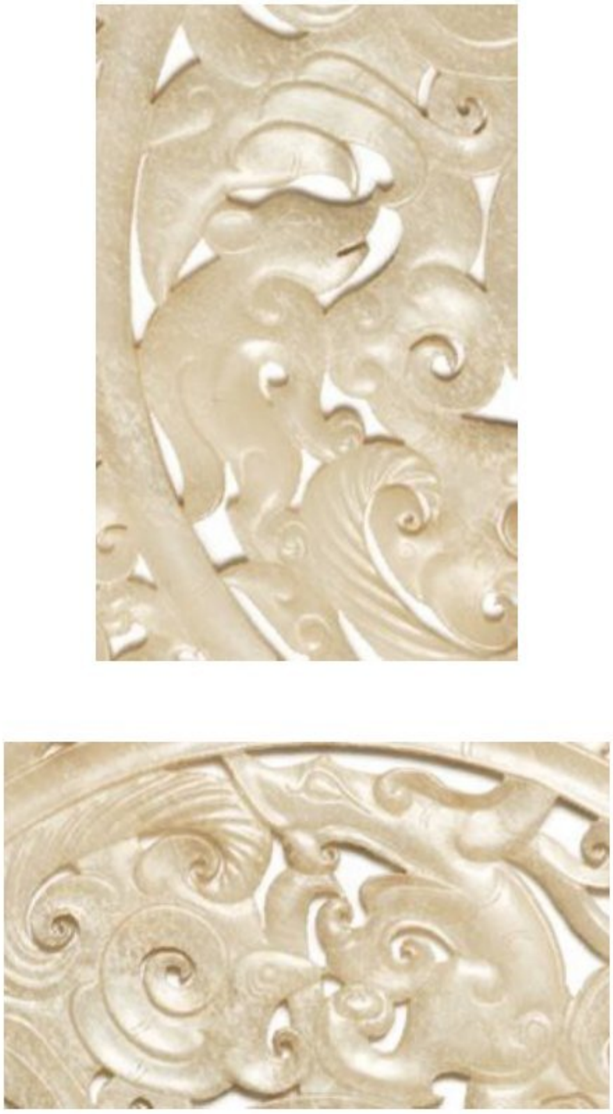
341
DISC WITH OPENWORK DECORATION OF DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES
鏤空龍鳳紋玉璧

This disc, no.341, and the following one, no.342, are two extraordinary examples of the openwork jades with intricate motifs that were created during the Han period. They share [redacted]

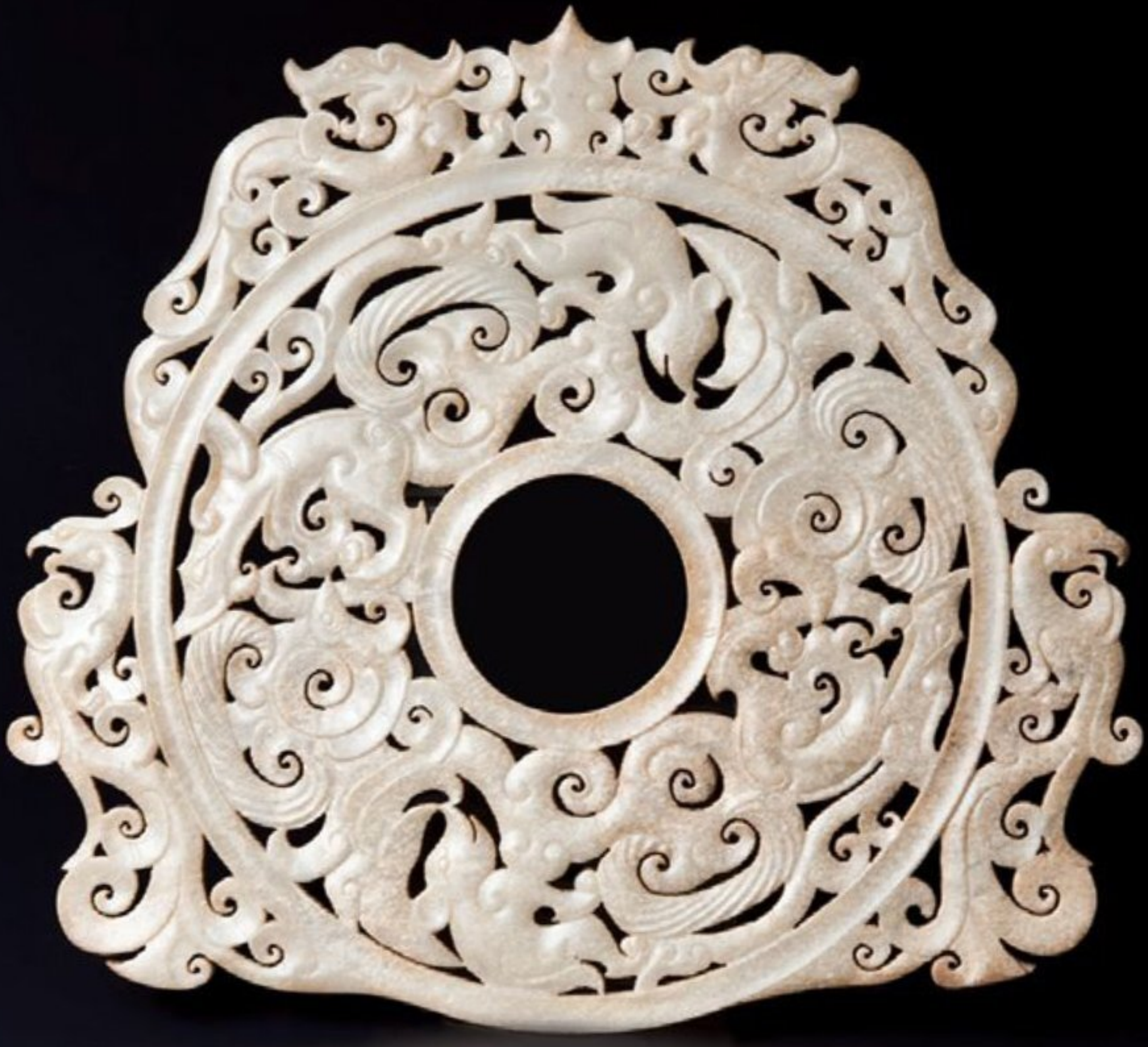
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



Details of the bear and the dragon carved in openwork on disc no.341.



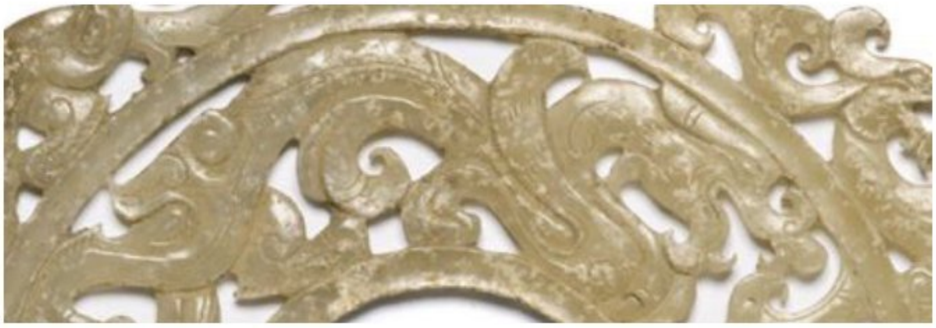
341
Height 17.3 cm - Width 19.3 cm
高 17.3 厘米 - 宽 19.3 厘米

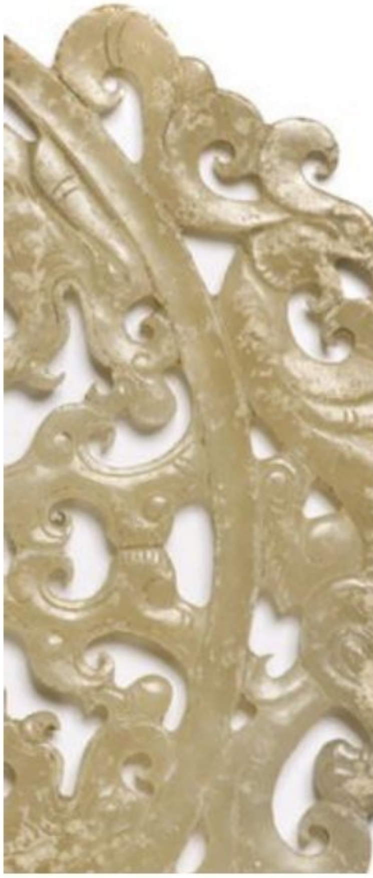
342
DISC WITH OPENWORK DECORATION OF DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES
鏤空龍鳳紋玉璧

The design of this large and remarkably thin openwork disc is similar to the previous one. The external part is decorated with three equally spaced phoenixes whose s-shaped bodies adhere to the border: they are all oriented in the same direction, as if [redacted]

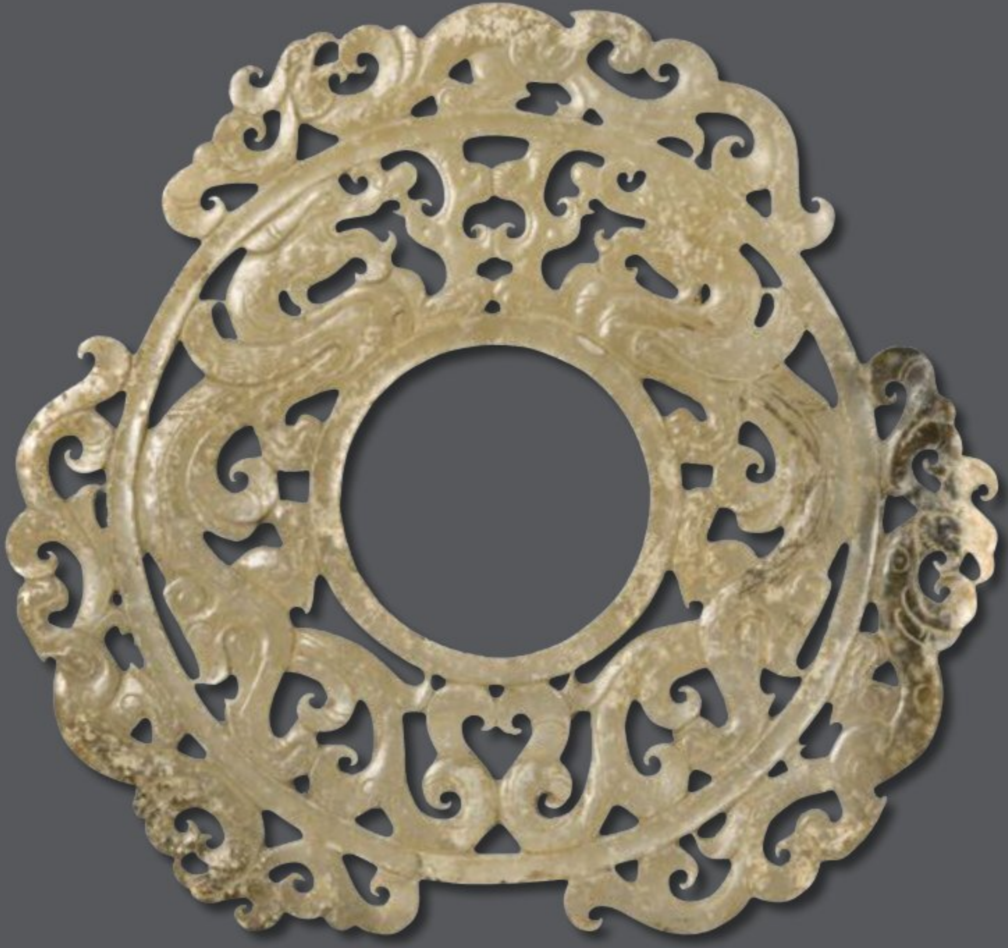
[redacted]

[redacted]





Details of the phoenix and the dragon carved on disc no.342.



342
Height 10.9 cm - Width 11.6 cm
高 10.9 厘米 - 寬 11.6 厘米

343
BI DISC WITH DRAGONS, ANIMALS OF THE FOUR DIRECTIONS AND SMALL HEXAGONS
鏤空雙龍穀紋四象玉璧

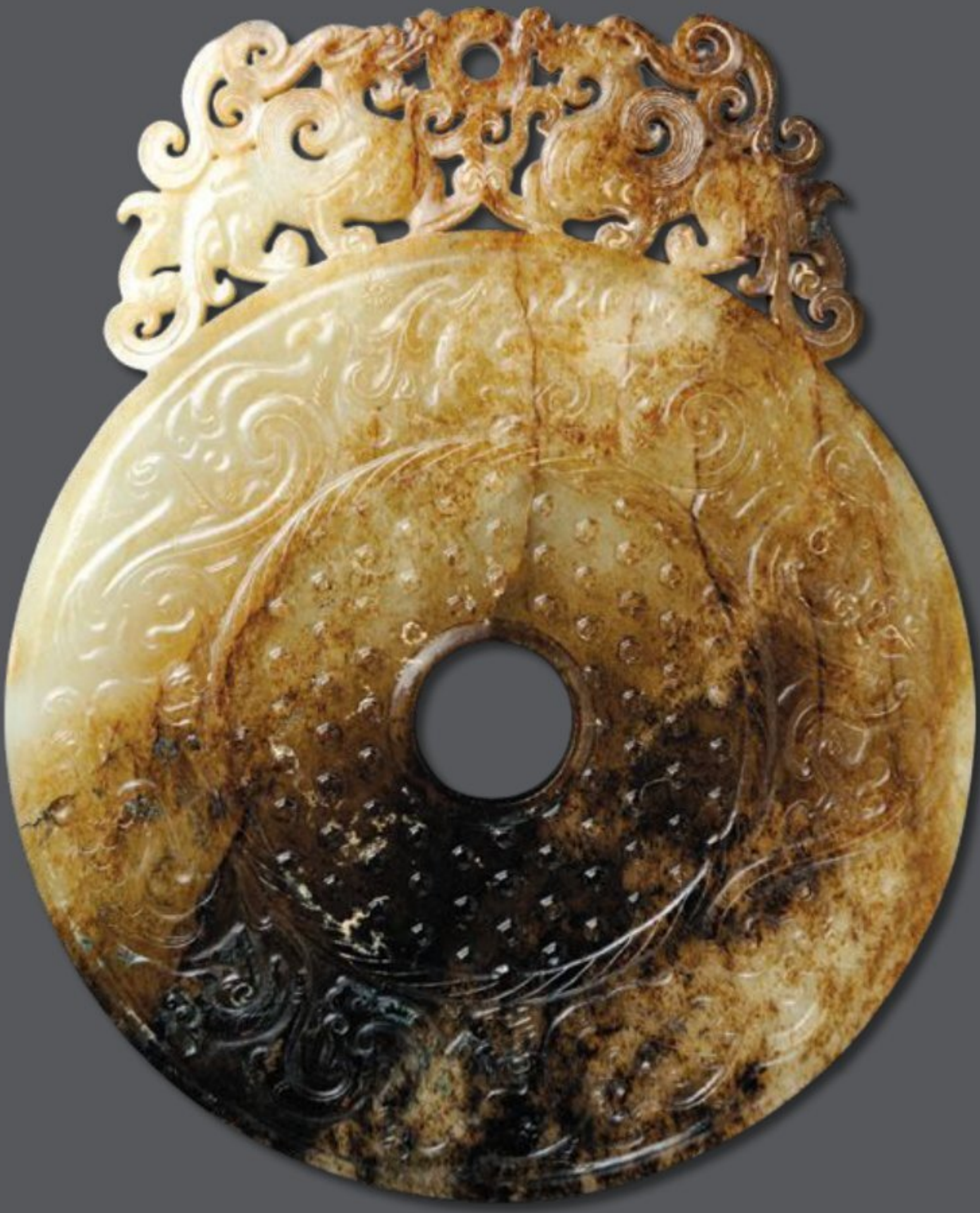
This disc, dated to the latter period of the Han dynasty, is carved with one of the most popular themes of Han art, the animals of the four directions, which are also known as the "Four Symbols" or *si xiang* 四象: the Vermilion Bird of the South, the White [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



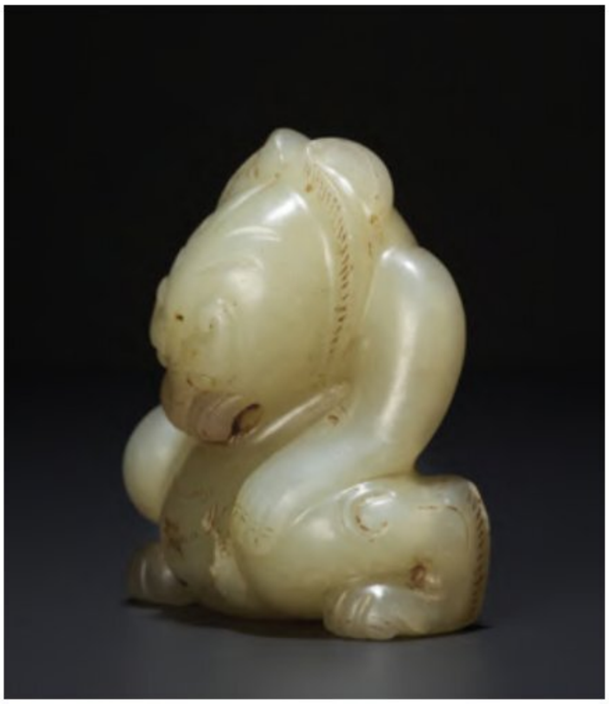
343
Height 20 cm - Diameter 16.2 cm
高 20 厘米 - 直徑 16.2 厘米

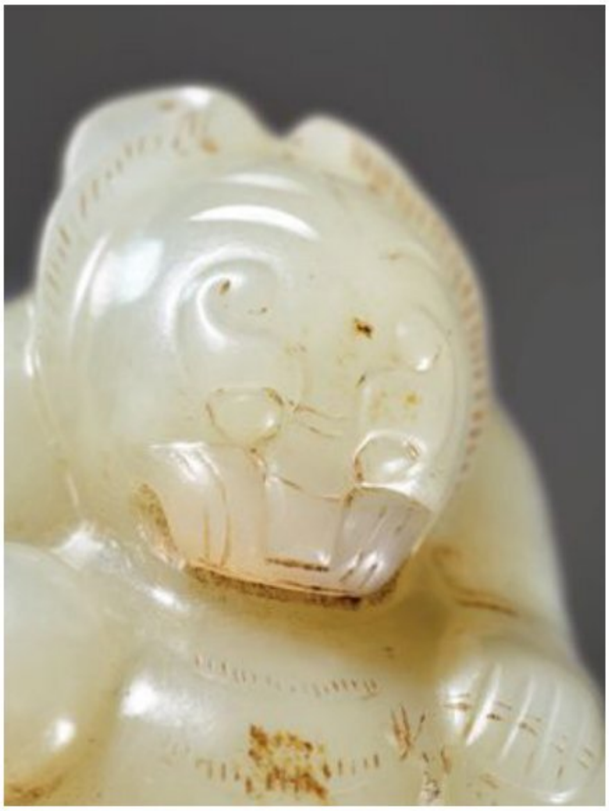
344
JADE BEAR
玉熊

This small, highly polished carving of a bear captures the liveliness of the animal, which is portrayed as if in the process of coming to a stand: one forepaw rests on its left knee and [redacted]

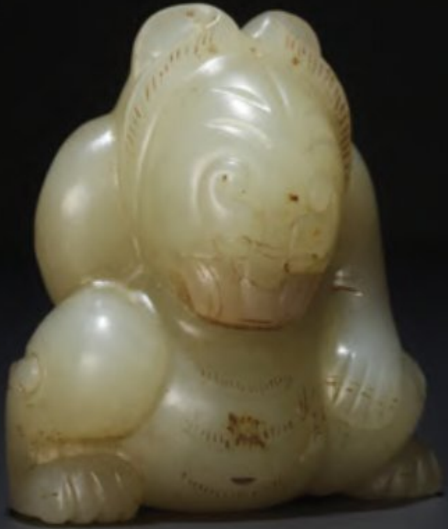
[redacted]

[redacted]





[redacted]



344
Height 4.2 cm
高 4.2 厘

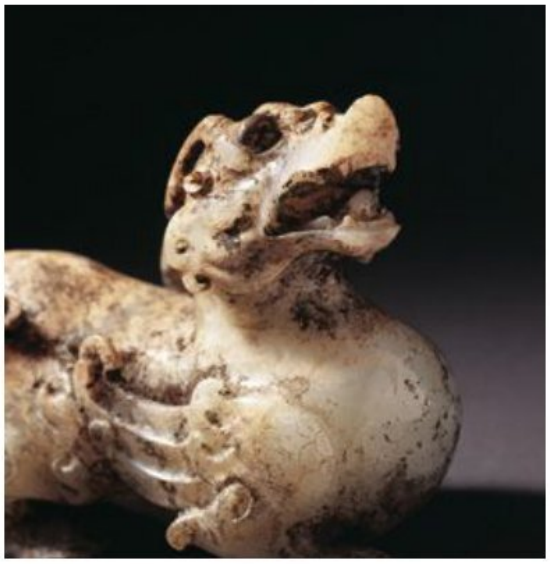
HAN DYNASTY, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
漢代, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

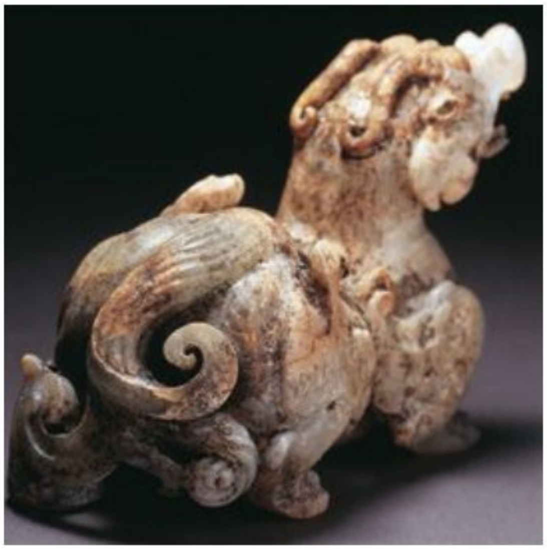
345-350
FIVE *PIXIU*, OR MYTHOLOGICAL CREATURES, AND A WINGED BEAR
五玉貔貅和一有翼玉熊

Representations of powerful mythological creatures in durable materials such as stone and jade became increasingly common in Han funerary art. Stone sculptures of winged beasts were lined on [redacted]

[redacted]

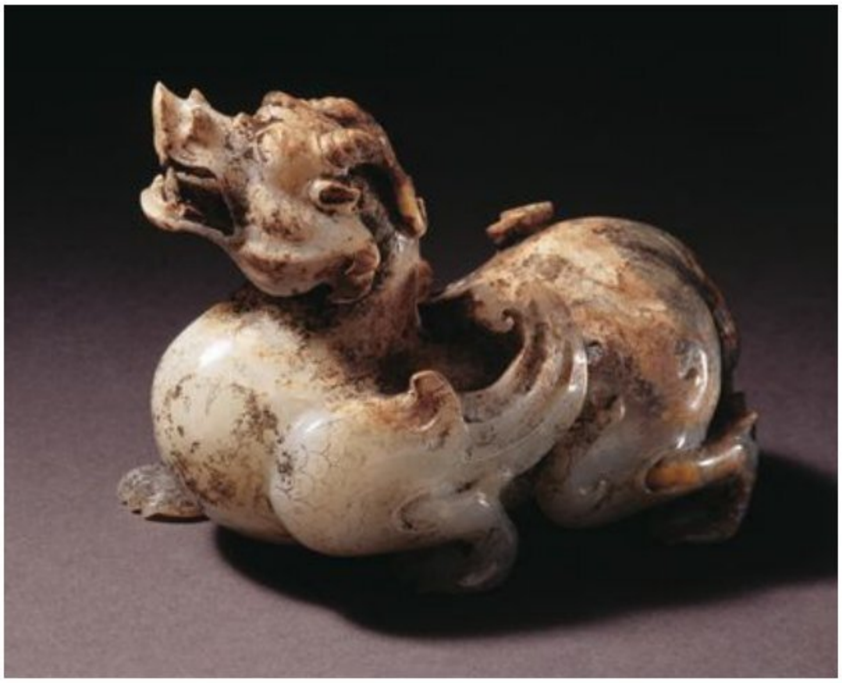
[redacted]



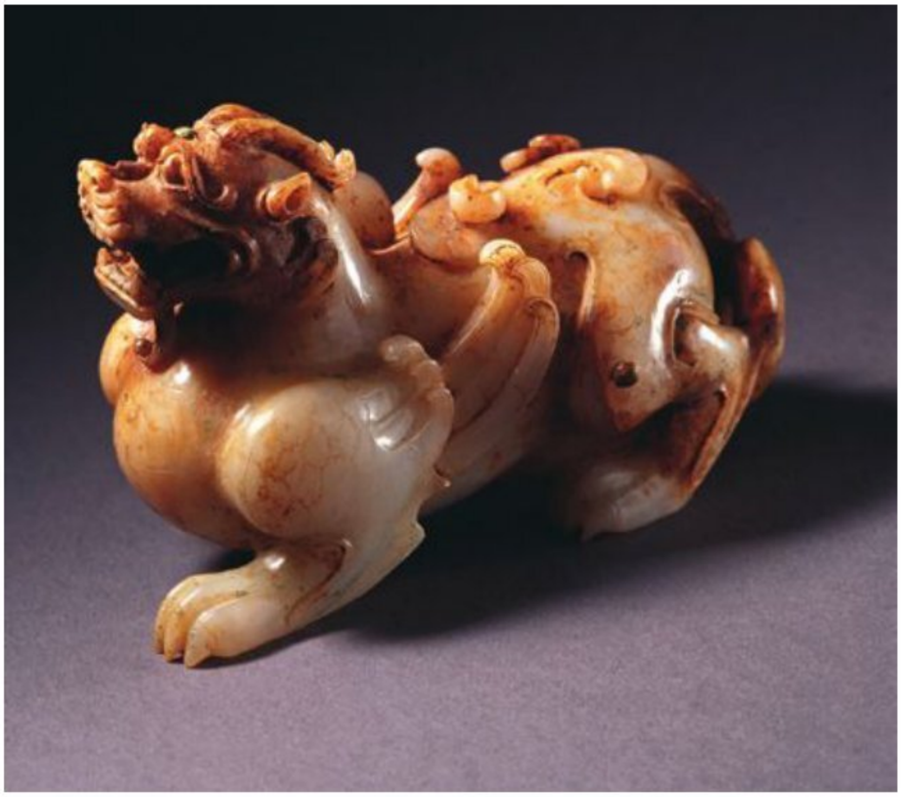


345
Length 11.7 cm
長 11.7 厘米

[redacted]

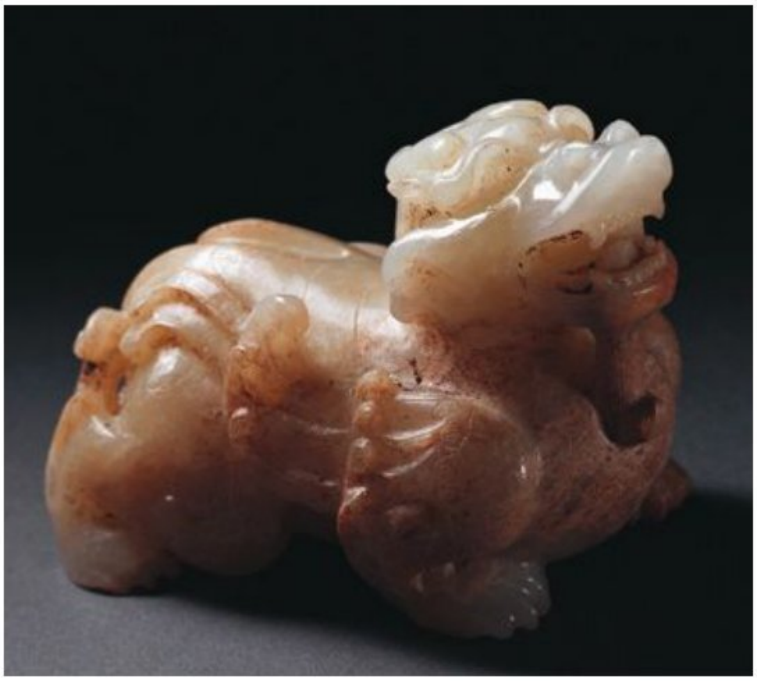


345
Length 11.7 cm
長 11.7 厘米

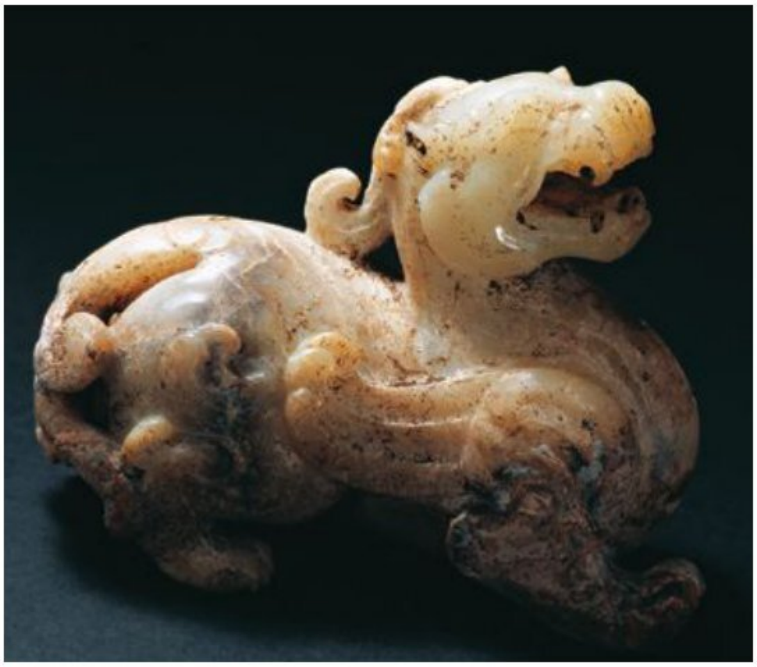


346
Length 14.8 cm
長 14.8 厘米

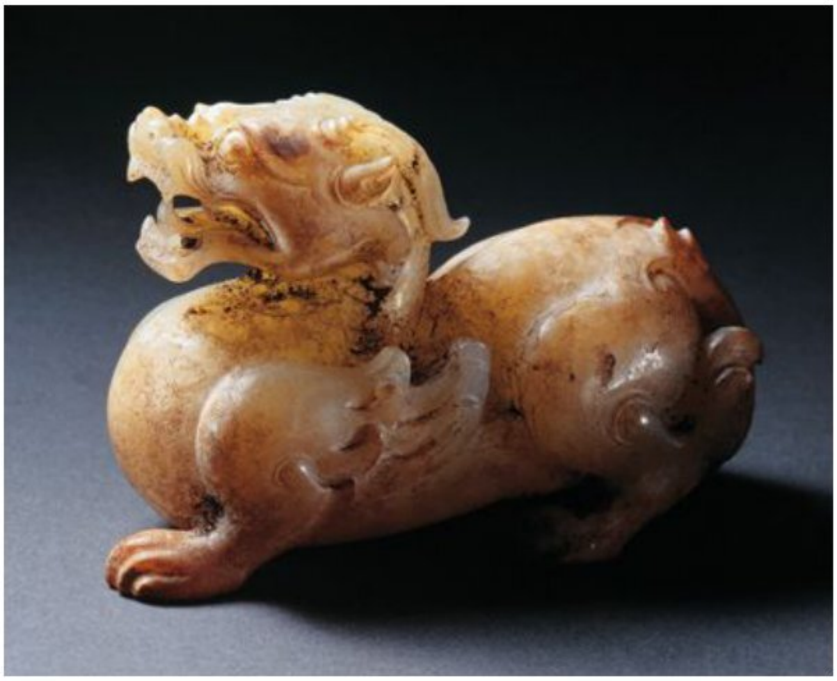
PIXIU, OR MYTHOLOGICAL CREATURES, AND A WINGED BEAR
玉貔貅和一有翼玉熊



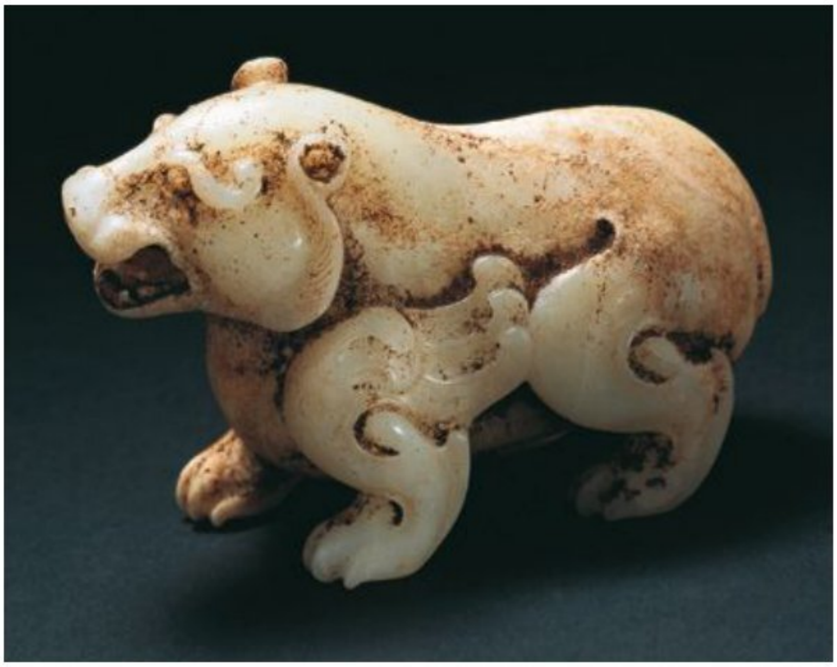
347
Length 8.8 cm
長 8.8 厘米



348
Length 12.1 cm
長 12.1 厘米



349
Length 11 cm
長 11 厘米



350
Length 9.6 cm
長 9.6 厘米

HAN DYNASTY, 2ND-1ST CENTURY BC
漢代, 公元前2世紀-前1世紀

351-352
TWO JADE CUPS
兩玉杯

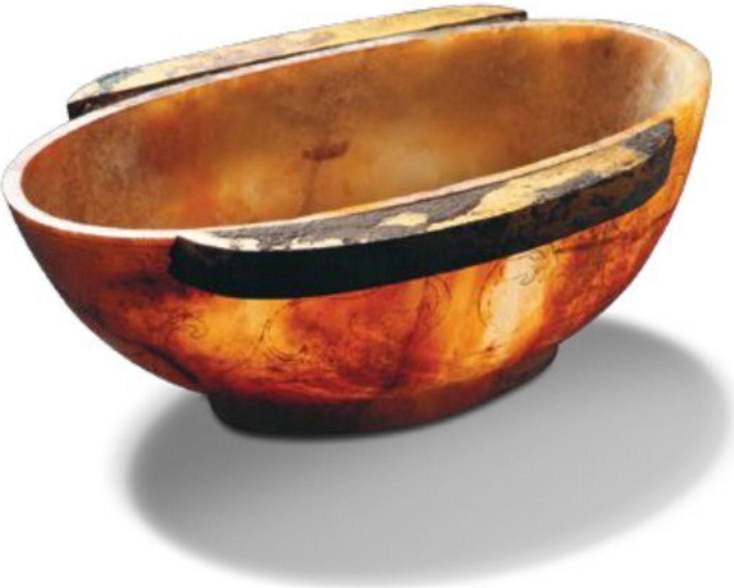
This book on archaic Chinese jades concludes with two precious objects that represent one of the most peculiar aspects of Han thought and court life: the search for immortality. In this quest for eternal life, which was a constant preoccupation of emperors and nobles, especially with the spread of Daoist ideas during the [redacted]

[redacted]

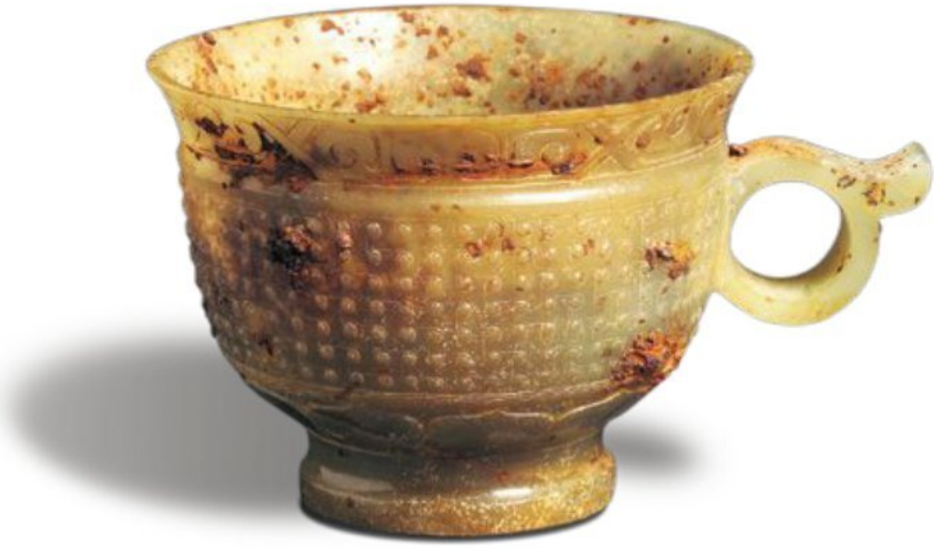
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]



351
Width 13.9 cm - Height 5.4 cm
寬 13.9 厘米 -高 5.4 厘米



352
Height 6.8 cm - Width 11.6 cm
寬 6.8 厘米 - 高 11.6 厘米

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